

A tennis racket, growing louder
A new out lesbian hits the big time
— and tongues are wagging.

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Chi chimp

The Retroviral Conference in Illinois opens with speculation on HIV origins.

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Universal tool
Jeff Stryker talks to the B.A.R.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 5 • 4 February 1999

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 27 years

Bearin' it all for charity

In a city long on tradition, it is not surprising that the various subcultures of San Francisco's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) communities have distinguished themselves when it comes to having a grand time while raising money for the needy. A recent survey conducted by mainstream watchdog agencies indicates that Americans are some of the most generous in the entire world population when it comes to bona fide charities.

Our people outshine the heterosexual community by two-thirds when it comes to volunteerism and giving out cash. It is not unusual to see headlines in gay publications touting thousands of dollars raised by a single event.

Not to be outdone by the royal court system, the leather title holders, the athletes, and other factions, the bear communities throughout the world measure up and sometimes go beyond the efforts of their brothers and sisters. Such is the case next weekend when the Bears of San Francisco (BOSF) stage their annual International Bear Rendezvous (IBR), beginning Friday, February 12 and ending Monday, February 15. Foreign bears and bears from throughout the United States will arrive to participate in the annual fuzzy frolic fete.

Close to \$100,000 has already been raised for various charities throughout the history of Bear Rendezvous. This year's beneficiaries of the largesse of the bears will be the HIV in Prison Committee, the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California, and the Gay and Lesbian National Hotline.

Some of the events open to the public include a South of Market pub crawl on Friday, February 12 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

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by Mister Marcus



Mister Marcus

Everyone's a winner at Bear Rendezvous, but these four lucky guys took home the titles last year.

Prevention Council votes against Brown Act, most of Sunshine Ordinance

by Cynthia Laird

In a blow for advocates of open meeting laws, the San Francisco HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC) overwhelmingly voted last Thursday, January 28 to follow only the passive requirements of the city's Sunshine Ordinance. Group members rejected following the Ralph M. Brown Act, saying the state's open meeting law does not apply to them.

Prior to the vote, members congratulated themselves for being a "model" community planning body for others in the country.

Last week's action reverses a vote the HPPC took last February, when the group agreed to follow the Brown Act and Sunshine Ordinance. Last year the council set up a governance task force that extensively reviewed a variety of rules and regulations under which the HPPC operates. It concluded that following the Brown Act would be too burdensome, and that the HPPC would not be able to have closed retreats, where members have discussed personal issues in the past. Some mem-

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Corpse found near End Up; cops suspect GHB

by Mark Norby

A man suspected of an overdose of gamma hydroxy butyrate acid (GHB) was found dead in the early morning hours Sunday, January 17 next to the End Up nightclub in San Francisco's South of Market area (SOMA), according to the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD). The body was found approximately two days after death, which has led the SFPD special investigations unit to speculate that the man may have consumed the popular—but dangerous—illegal drug at the club the preceding Friday night.

City Medical Examiner Dr. Boyd Stevens confirmed the death and said that toxicology tests are being conducted. "We haven't

been able to determine if the SFPD has identified the man's family, so releasing the name of the victim to the public still isn't possible. Once we know that the family has been contacted we will release his name," Stevens said.

"The body was already two days old when it was found in the lot next to the End Up," said SFPD Lieutenant Kitt Crenshaw. "The toxicology reports take about two weeks, so we won't be positive about a GHB overdose until then. However, we have reports from people who were at the club that night that GHB was being liberally passed around and that the victim also had consumed the drug. We have another report that the man was hauled out of the club by a few guys," Crenshaw added.

The SFPD further speculated that GHB was involved due to the high number of

GHB overdoses that have occurred over the past three months. The department has reported an average of 15 GHB overdoses per weekend in San Francisco alone.

Fifteen additional overdoses have occurred due to consumption of Blue Nitro, a controversial liquid declared illegal two weeks ago by the state of California. Blue Nitro's main ingredient, gamma butyrolactone (GBL), metabolizes into GHB via lactone naturally present in the body. The nearly identical effects of GHB and GBL has led Ron McGlashan of the SFPD public affairs office to believe that a GBL-containing substance could also be responsible for the overdose, causing the death. One death has already been reported to be caused by a Blue Nitro overdose.

Every Friday the End Up hosts "Fag," a

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Jane Philomen Cleland

FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS

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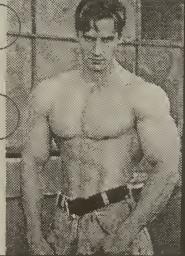


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Anti-gay assault on Church near Market

by Mark Norby

Two San Francisco gay men report being harassed and assaulted by a carload of young men Monday, January 18 while walking on Church Street near the Market Street intersection. The two men were called "faggots" and taunted before one of the passengers threw a bottle at one of the victims, hitting him in the head.

Christopher Padilla and his lover Steve Katz, director of photography for the film *Gods and Monsters*, said that as they stepped away from the Cal Fed Bank ATM on Market Street and proceeded toward Chow restaurant, they heard the words "faggot" shouted from the curbside. Katz and Padilla looked toward the street and saw a white, mid-sized, mid-1980s model car containing four males.

The men shouted and whistled and waved at Katz and Padilla to approach the car. They were noticeably drunk and were smoking pot and acting rowdy and antagonizing," Katz told the Bay Area Reporter.

Katz and Padilla were between Chow restaurant and the Pilson Inn when, according to Katz, a sort of shot was heard. "I thought I heard a gunshot," said Katz. "I



Assaulted San Francisco gay couple Christopher Padilla and Steve Katz.

freaked and I turned toward Christopher and was thinking 'Oh, my God,' and I saw that a bottle had hit him in the head."

"One of the guys in the car, I think the one sitting in the front passenger seat, threw a beer bottle at Chris's head. It hit him and then shattered on the front window of Chow."

Katz said the car then sped away, too fast to get its license plate number.

"A street person then called to us," Katz said, "and told us that the boy who threw the bottle used to work at Chow restaurant. We went into Chow and two waitress-

es said the same thing, that they knew the guy and that he used to work there as a cook. They said he's been known to shout anti-gay slangs at gay men in the area."

"We've lived in this neighborhood for 12 years and never have we had something like this happen." ▼

The suspects are described as Hispanic males in their teens or early 20s. Anyone with information on the incident is asked to call the San Francisco Police Department hate crimes division at (415) 553-9121.

Haight Ashbury Clinics release tyrosine to all meth users

Natural amino acid may cut craving

by Mark Norby

The Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc. Pharmacologic Research Unit (HAFCI-PRU) has announced that they will be administering tyrosine for methamphetamine dependence in an ongoing study examining methods of eradicating addiction to the drug. The study previously was limited to people receiving counseling and support through the HAFCI drug detox program. With the addition of a substance abuse therapist to the pharmacologic research staff, weekly individual counseling is now available to all wanting to participate in the study.

"We felt it was important to make our study more accessible to

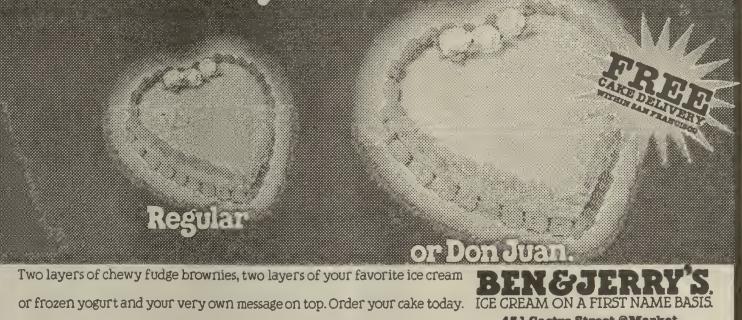
people who were not already participating in a drug treatment program," says HAFCI counselor Suzi Kaplan. "Many of our current subjects would not have considered enrolling in an ordinary treatment program, though when they participate in our study they receive support and counseling to address their drug problem. These individual sessions may be particularly useful for people who are less comfortable discussing their issues in a large group, which serves as the mode of treatment in most programs."

The research study focuses on whether tyrosine, a naturally occurring amino acid, may help people who want to stop using methamphetamine. "When a person uses speed for an extended

period of time," states Dr. Sydney Frederick-Osborne, research psychologist at HAFCI, "their brain may become depleted of certain neurotransmitters. This may be the cause of symptoms like fatigue and cravings. We know from animal studies that it is possible to raise the levels of these chemicals by giving tyrosine supplements. So, our hope is that giving the supplements to people who have depleted these brain chemicals will help them to feel better and have a better chance of successfully quitting speed use."

Participants are reimbursed for their participation in the study and receive all nutritional supplements and counseling free of charge. Call HAFCI-PRU at (415) 487-3678 for more information. ▼

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Latino community protests 'Wetback Night' at the Stud's 'Trannyshack' February 2.

Wetback Night at the Stud – racism or 'Trannyshackles?'

by Mark Norby

The weekly party "Trannyshack" at the Stud night club in San Francisco's South of Market area whipped up a fury of pride and protest Tuesday, February 2 as the club hosted the second annual "Wetback Night," a dance and drag night organized and promoted by local Latino drag queens. The drag queens—or "trannies," as they affectionately call themselves—got what they wanted as throngs of protesters showed up to voice their concerns about the use of the slang "wetback" to describe Latino/as that came to the United States from Central and South America to start a better life.

It was a night of anger. Shouts of "fascist pigs," "bigots," "racist mariposas," "drag queen bitches," "ashholes," and "maricons," were heard by a noticeably older generation of the Latino/a community

that led the protest.

"I am a Mexican-American and proud of it," stated Lady Sergio, who co-produced the event. "If anyone has the right to use the word 'wetback' it's me! I've paid my dues, picked vegetables, washed dishes for pennies, served white people meals. I'm merely taking the power out of the word, just like calling myself 'faggot.'"

This pronouncement, however, did not impress those on the street holding banners and forming pickets and shouting at cars that drove by the club or pulled to the side of the curb in front of the Stud's entrance, trains of trannies exiting the cars and floating on high-heels and on into the party.

Banners read "Support Latino Community—Stop the Stud" and "No More Latino Racism." Yet as the chanting of protest could be heard, Latino trannies walked right past reporters and cameras from Bay Area television stations and sauntered their way through the mob,

stepping toe-to-heel, plopping purses and handbags on the top of the bar, ignoring the hubbub and ordering tall cocktails.

'Everyone is welcome'

One could only wonder what exactly was really going on: is this an event representing drag queens who regularly fight for a sexual identity? Or is this Latinos slapping their elders in the face, disrespecting their fight for a racial identity? Or a publicity stunt? Or a bored drag queen community with nothing to do on a Tuesday night in a city that will push the envelope on any issue, big, small, or seemingly invented?

"It's up to the Latino community to work this issue out," the Stud's co-owner Michael McElheney told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We're not racist or any 'ist' at the Stud. Just read the sign above our entrance. It says 'Everyone is Welcome at the Stud.' That's the way it

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CDC reports increasing unsafe sex among SF gays

by Liz Highleyman

Last week the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that rates of unprotected anal sex appear to be on the rise among gay and bisexual men. CDC officials suggested that news about the success of potent combination anti-HIV therapy might be encouraging some men to stop practicing safer sex. The report appeared in the January 29 issue of *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

The agency noted that rates of rectal gonorrhea had nearly doubled at San Francisco sexually transmitted disease clinics between 1994 and 1997, a reversal of a three-year decline. According to the city's Department of Public Health, rectal gonorrhea rates increased from 21 cases to 38 cases per 100,000 men over the period. Because rectal gonorrhea is trans-

mited through unprotected anal sex, it is viewed as a marker for sexual behavior that can also transmit HIV, which is typically not so readily apparent. In addition, having an ulcerative STD such as gonorrhea may increase the likelihood of HIV transmission.

The CDC also reported that surveys conducted by the Stop AIDS Project revealed increased rates of unprotected anal sex among gay men in the city. Stop AIDS Project's surveys of nearly 22,000 gay and bisexual men revealed that almost one-third more sexually active men had engaged in unprotected anal sex in 1997 as in 1994. There was a decrease in the percentage of men who said they always used condoms, from over 69 percent in 1994 to under 62 percent in 1997; in other words, the percentage of men who reported unprotected anal sex increased from just over 30 percent in 1994 to nearly 40 percent in

1997. The percentage of men reporting unprotected anal sex with multiple partners increased to 33 percent in 1997, up from nearly 24 percent in 1994.

The decline in condom use and the increase in multiple partners were especially large among younger men. According to Dr. Helene Gayle of the National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention at the CDC, younger gay men "have come of age at a time when the death and debilitation caused by AIDS is less visible in the United States than it once was."

Richard Steketee of the CDC's Division of AIDS Prevention said that the increase "is happening across all racial and ethnic groups and across all age groups." Steketee said that because of the rapid advances that have taken place in anti-HIV treatment, some men have a perception that it is no longer necessary to take precautions to prevent HIV infection. ▼

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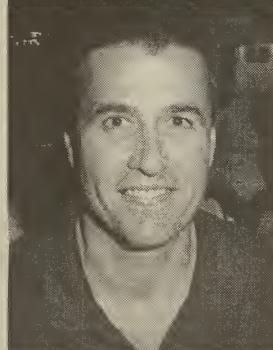
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Flap's up after Mayor Brown flies United

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown lost his temper Tuesday, February 2 when he was faced with questions at his press availability about using United Airlines to fly to New York City and Washington D.C. last week. Brown was upset that reporters questioned his decision to fly the giant air carrier, which is in the midst of a lengthy legal battle with the city over compliance with the equal benefits ordinance.

The mayor also said he was not aware of the "unofficial" boycott of United that gay activists with Equal Benefits Advocates (EBA) launched and which the national gay groups Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund endorsed in December. While not prohibiting flying United, the boycott calls for supporters of the law to wear buttons protesting the company if they have no choice but to fly the airline. San Francisco's three gay supervisors, Tom Ammiano, Leslie Katz, and Mark Leno all stood outside City Hall when HRC announced its support of the boycott, although they stressed they were not acting in their official capacity as elected officials.

The equal benefit law requires companies doing business with the city to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if those benefits are offered to employee spouses. U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken ruled last April that while the airlines don't have to comply with providing some benefits like medical and pension benefits, they do have to

offer others such as bereavement leave and travel. It is that part of the judge's ruling United is now fighting in court. Wilken heard arguments in the case January 22 but has not yet issued an opinion.

Brown flew United last week when he visited family in New York City before heading to Washington D.C. to attend a U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting. Kandace Bender, Brown's press secretary, and Rebecca Prozan, the mayor's liaison to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community, tried to put a positive spin on Brown's decision to fly United, saying it was no indication of support for the airline not complying with the law.

"The point the mayor was trying to make [at his press availability] was that it's not an official boycott," Bender told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The point for the mayor is that his record is unblemished. No one is more supportive of the equal benefits ordinance than Mayor Brown."

Prozan told the *B.A.R.*, "The mayor did fly United, he was on a very tight schedule." She said she could neither confirm nor deny that the mayor wore a protest button on the flight, but speculated he probably did not. "My sense is he has not worn buttons, it's not really his style."

She went on to say her office was besieged with calls from members of the gay community angry over the incident, but hoped it could prompt LGBT residents to take action by contacting United directly about the issue and urging the airline to comply with the ordinance and drop the lawsuit.

Leno was quoted in the *San Francisco Examiner* last week as say-

ing he hoped to "educate" the mayor about the United boycott. Days later, Leno backtracked from that statement somewhat, saying the mayor is a staunch supporter of the ordinance and the gay community.

"We want everyone – if they're flying United – to fly with protest and awareness," Leno told the *B.A.R.* "I want to clarify that no leader, locally or nationally, has been more steadfast in support of equal benefits that the mayor."

For her part, Katz echoed the same themes in a letter she sent to the *Examiner*. "Not only did he work with the [San Francisco] Chamber of Commerce and other organizations to gain their support, he also worked with us to craft a resolution that was reached with the Archdiocese."

EBA co-founder Jeff Sheehy said the issue was a non-story. "The mayor's not in a position where he can take a strong stand," Sheehy told the *B.A.R.*.

Sheehy also said he learned through informal contacts at the City Attorney's office that the mayor would be putting the lawsuit in jeopardy if he took any direct action or asked a city employee to book him on a flight other than United. Dennis Aftergut, chief assistant city attorney who's lead counsel in the case, declined to confirm Sheehy's comment or make any statement about the mayor's travel. At a luncheon for reporters, Aftergut did say he expects the city to prevail in court with respect to forcing United to comply with the law.

Asked if Brown would choose another airline for future flights, Sheehy would only say, "He's not going anywhere" for awhile. ▼

Pride Collaborative event Friday to focus on LGBT students' challenges

by Cynthia Laird

The Pride Collaborative at United Way and KP Pride will address lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) challenges for students at its next quarterly Pride Power Breakfast, this Friday, February 5 in Oakland. KP Pride is Kaiser Permanente's LGBT employee association.

The breakfast and program is entitled "OUT in School: Challenges Facing LGBT High School students in the 1990s." Following a welcoming address by Dr. David W. Lawrence, chairman and chief executive officer of Kaiser Permanente Health Plan Hospitals, a panel of lesbian and gay students from local high schools will be facilitated by Grant Peterson of the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN).

"By connecting LGBT employee resource groups of Bay Area companies with the Gay/Straight Alliances of local high schools, we hope to create opportunities for resource sharing and potential mentorship programs," said

Selisse Berry, executive director of the Pride Collaborative.

Berry told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the collaborative's goal is to partner Gay/Straight Alliances with LGBT employee groups. "Gay/Straight Alliances and employee groups are both vehicles for our community to come together. One is at school and one is at work, but they both have a lot in common."

Berry said everyone is welcome to attend the Pride Power Breakfast. The Pride Collaborative at United Way provides support and advocacy for the LGBT community in the workplace. It was formed just about a year ago when several Bay Area organizations that provide support and advocacy services for the LGBT community in the workplace announced the formation of a new nonprofit partnership. Supported by the United Way, the collaborative includes Building Bridges, A Group of Groups (AGOG), and Progress.

Berry said that the new association of queer agencies that focus on workplace issues will result in a more united effort. The three

well-known Bay Area groups were created to advocate for safe and equitable working environments for the queer community and to foster leadership, volunteerism, and philanthropy among LGBT people wherever they work. The Pride Collaborative hopes to build on those goals as well as United Way's commitment to the queer community and strong history of building healthy and safe communities. The groups are known for their work addressing sensitivity training, leadership training for queer employee groups at companies, and networking among various employee groups.

A donation of \$5-10 is requested for the breakfast program. ▼

The Pride Power Breakfast takes place from 8 to 9:30 a.m. in the 20th floor conference room at Kaiser's office, One Kaiser Plaza, between Webster and Harrison streets, off 21st Street, near the 19th Street BART station. For more information, call (415) 439-4272.

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Market Street Safeway sued for harassment

by Mark Norby

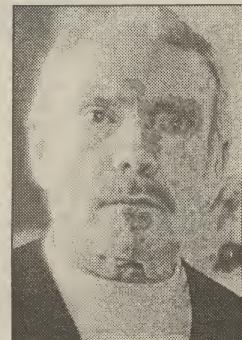
A lawsuit alleging discrimination, harassment, and assault and battery of a gay customer was filed Friday, January 29 against grocery giant Safeway, Inc. The lawsuit alleges that Steven Nick Bowen was called "faggot" and "maricon" at the Church and Market Street Safeway near the heart of the Castro, where a large number of the local lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community are customers. Bowen's suit also claims he was struck in the head by produce, and received threatening anti-gay telephone calls from Safeway employees.

The suit, filed in San Francisco Superior Court by attorneys Paul Wotman and Tyler Shaw, of Wotman & Kors, LLP, also names Safeway employee Michael Coleman who, according to the complaint, called Bowen a "fag" and threw a ginger root at Bowen, hitting him in the head.

Bowen apparently was a regular customer at the Church and Market Safeway, shopping there almost daily for both himself and for persons with AIDS (PWAs), some of whom accompanied him to the store.

"I was shopping as usual one day," Bowen told the Bay Area Reporter, "and without warning, was hit in the back of my head with a ginger root as I heard someone from behind say 'fag.' I turned around and saw a Safeway employee I later learned was Mike Coleman. I was shocked and outraged."

"Recent court cases have held employers liable for the hate crimes committed by their employees while working," Wotman told the Bay Area Reporter. "This case presents allegations of anti-gay conduct openly practiced in the workplace by several employ-



Steven Nick Bowen

ees for which Safeway will be responsible."

The lawsuit also claims that Bowen received harassing telephone calls at his home, and that the calls were placed from inside the Church and Market Safeway by Safeway employees.

According to the lawsuit, the calls consisted of threatening and intimidating language, including "maricon," "queer," "fucking faggot," and "I'm going to get you." Bowen knew the calls were placed by Safeway employees because when he used his telephone's "call-return" feature (dialing *69) after receiving the calls, his calls were answered at the Safeway store.

The suit alleges denial of Bowen's civil rights, his rights to be free from violence and threats of violence on the basis of his sexual orientation, and his right to enjoy the full and equal accommodations and services of the supermarket as guaranteed by the California Unruh Civil Rights Act. The lawsuit seeks compensation for emotional distress, statutory penalties, attorney's fees, and punitive damages.

"It is very surprising and even

unlikely that any of these allegations are accurate," Debra Lampert, director of public affairs at Safeway corporate offices in Pleasanton, told the B.A.R. "The Church and Market Safeway is dominated by a gay and lesbian customer base and a large number of the employees at that store are either gay or lesbian. I have received no information regarding this complaint and I have no knowledge of any of these incidents occurring."

"If this information is true," Lampert continued, "Safeway will take every measure to ensure that the employees responsible are reprimanded. Safeway is committed to providing its customers with the best service and shopping environment of any supermarket chain. That includes protecting customers from harassment of any kind."

Wotman's office has filed many lawsuits on behalf of victims of anti-gay violence, including one in San Jose on behalf of a gay man assaulted by his next door neighbor which was captured on videotape and shown nationally.

"No one should have to endure violence or be threatened because he is gay," said Shaw. "It is unfortunate that gay men have to look over their shoulders in many if not most parts of the country," Shaw said. "But for anti-gay violence to occur in San Francisco is truly disturbing." ▼

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The real story

preventable.

As we've said before, prevention advocates are hobbled by working with dulled and rusty tools identical to the ones first used nearly two decades ago: latex condoms and counseling. There are still, on the verge of the new millennium, no microbicides, no vaccines, and no "Manhattan Project" against AIDS, despite years of promises – in fact, this year Clinton plans to flat-fund prevention efforts (as he increases "defense" spending, as if the

foreign armies we defend against are any deadlier than the virus) and the infection rate is likely to keep climbing and climbing...

That is the rest of the news story that daily paper could have run, after it had hooked readers with its sensationalistic headline and racy stories. But we don't want to sound too critical of the *Chronicle*: it's strong and soft and absorbent, and by now we assume that's all anyone requires of it. ▼

Editorial



Trade is a gay health issue

by Erick Brownstein, Rainforest Action Network, and Julie Davids, ACT UP/Philadelphia

As most AIDS activists surely have heard, AIDS research scientist Dr. Beatrice Hahn of the University of Alabama at Birmingham recently concluded a study indicating that HIV-1 originated deep within the rainforests of Central Africa. Hahn and other scientists believe effective treatments and possible cures for AIDS can also be found in the rainforests, but these rainforests are being destroyed at an unbelievable rate.

In an unprecedented alliance, AIDS activists and environmental activists are joining forces. As individuals and organizations concerned about the tens of millions infected with HIV, as well as the people and future of Africa, we recognize that the same forces of world trade threaten to escalate rainforest destruction and the global AIDS epidemic. As we have talked, we have realized that we could add tremendous strength to each other's efforts. Our first step together will be to work towards the rejection of the Clinton administration's destructive African Trade and Development Bill.

Despite the name, this legislation would require African countries to adhere to the harsh and often inhumane requirements of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). These struggling countries would be required to undergo a radical restructuring of their economies, in which domestic spending on health and education is jettisoned in favor of privatization, and rapid export, of natural resources such as the rainforest.

In the past 10 years, IMF policies have allowed commercial logging interests to cut down an area of rainforest twice the size of Florida, and carve roads into previously inaccessible forest regions. This forest is the home of the chimps – and is also identified as a source of potential cures and treatments for AIDS. However, this opportunity could slip through our fingers: while the rainforests are falling, these endangered chimpanzees are being killed and butchered.

The story behind the slaughter of the apes, and the escalation of the AIDS epidemic, is the so-called "bushmeat trade," the commercialized killing of chimpanzees and other endangered species, which has become a powerfully destructive force throughout the Central African region. Logging roads cut deep into the heart of the rainforest now provide easy access to vast, formerly unreachable forest regions, making it easy for commercial hunters to kill and butcher animals. Hunters then sell this "bushmeat" to logging camps, and carry the meat to market on logging trucks, selling it in the cities as a high-priced delicacy.

When hunters field-dress the recently killed chimpanzees, they are literally bathing their hands in blood. AIDS scientists now believe that blood-to-blood contact between humans and chimpanzees allowed the virus to jump between species.

If the administration's bill passes, IMF mandates will be further dictated in Africa, increasing the risk of new diseases emerging while destroying the rainforest medicine chest of the world. In addition, imposed "austerity measures" will require cuts in social spending that, among many other hardships, will further block African peoples' access to effective treatments for AIDS. And the bill would promote the interests of large pharmaceutical corporations, punishing countries like South Africa for producing inexpensive versions of AIDS drugs.

But there is an alternative. On February 2, Jesse Jackson Jr. announced to the world the HOPE for Africa Bill. This bill is a bold departure from IMF policies that have been a proven failure. Instead, the Human rights, Opportunity, Partnership and Empowerment Act is a model for trade policies founded on respect and collaboration, rather than the insured misery of millions.

The HOPE bill is based on debt relief, the sovereign right to choose economic and social policy, and guaranteed foreign aid to overcome the damage of rich countries' past exploitation of the continent. In addition,

compulsory licensing agreement reform would make it easier for countries to produce generic versions of otherwise-unaffordable AIDS drugs and other lifesaving compounds for domestic use.

Hahn's discovery can be a powerful foundation from which to act together. Let it serve us by carrying it as a message to those who sit in the seats of power, our leaders, the leaders of the world's richest and most powerful country.

As people with HIV and their loved ones, our tax dollars should not fund environmentally and socially destructive activities that work against, rather than for, a cure for this virus. Our taxes should enhance human life worldwide and respect the fragile ecosystems on which we all depend. We can work together to reject the Clinton Administration's African Trade and Development Bill, and support the

HOPE for Africa bill.

What can we do?

We can educate others and ourselves about opportunities to challenge the underlying forces causing misery worldwide and threatening vital research. From Internet discussion groups to community forums to AIDS service organizations, we can continue our tradition of self-education and action to combat the global HIV epidemic.

Contact your representative today, and urge them to reject Clinton's bill and support the HOPE for Africa Bill. For more information contact Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch (202-546-4996; www.trade-watch.org). Or call your representative directly through the Congressional switchboard at 202-224-3121. We know the voices of people with HIV and their loved ones makes a difference in Congress, and must add our voices to opposition to the African trade bill.

Time is not on our side. Clinton's bill is scheduled to come to a House vote on February 23. Please join Rainforest Action Network and ACT UP/Philadelphia as we work to end the silence on world trade policies that fuel the fires of the AIDS epidemic. ▼

LETTERS

He thays he'th Cathilian

Bravo for Glenn Mathews's letter in reference to your Mr. Marcus and his hypocrisy on criticizing the Bar on Castro Street for not allowing men in leather ("Letters or feathers, it's all bigotry," January 21). At the same time he praised the Loading Dock for excluding anyone not in leather.

I was a member of the leather community since I arrived here from my native France back in 1985. The leather community is composed mainly of white men, some of them quite racist. I experienced it while dating blacks and later a Latino. All my white friends in the leather community always made jokes and comments toward them that were offensive and prejudiced. That's why I decided to stay out of it.

I remember a few years ago when Mr. Europe Leather came here for a visit. Mr. Marcus (who happens to be a Latino) requested the services of an interpreter. Being that Mr. Europe Leather was from Spain, my Latino lover applied for the job. Mr. Marcus did not hire him, because he did not speak "strictly Castilian." So I could say that I, as a French speaking man from France, would not be able to understand a French Canadian or a Guadalupean?

Georges Michel
San Francisco

Air sick

Mayor Willie Brown's decision to fly United despite a boycott brings his transit woes full circle.

Supervisor Mark Leno says that he would like to meet with Brown to educate him about the airline's discriminatory domestic partner's policies.

Wait a minute. Does Leno truly believe Brown to be ignorant? Leno was elected as supervisor. Isn't it the job of Brown's liaison to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community to brief the mayor on issues of critical importance to our communities.

Who currently staffs that post?

The spin of Brown's press office that the mayor takes the cheapest flight regardless of the airline is especially pathetic. What are we to expect next? News that Brown has an account at a bank that plundered accounts of victims of the Nazi holocaust because it offered free checking?

Shameless.



Dennis Conkin
San Francisco

Nomads no mo'

Supervisor Tom Ammiano continues to oppose efforts by Supervisor Amos Brown to control the abusive behavior of street drunks and junkies. Tom calls them "the San Francisco homeless." But most are not San Franciscans who have become homeless. They're nomads on drugs and alcohol who've flocked here from elsewhere because San Francisco is an easy target. In fact, they compete for available social services with San Franciscans residents who become homeless. And they trash our neighborhoods — just look at what's going on in the Castro. They'll never have an incentive to overcome their destructive addictions until they are held accountable for their public behavior, just like everybody else.

Tom's support for the drug nomads is destructive to our neighborhoods. It's as destructive as the greed of the big chain stores that are moving in. What an irony. Has Tom forgotten that it was gay neighborhood power that elected him to the board in the first place?

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

Ball buster

Regarding last week's column on football ("Why I still hate pro football"): Who put the Ben-Gay in Jim "Wide Receiver" Provenzano's jock strap? Okay so I get that Jim doesn't like pro football. Many gay and queer folk do like the sport, Jim. Go into almost any gay bar in town during a 49ers game and you'll find a group of people rooting for their home team in a Cro-magnon fashion around the TV screen. A large part of football's appeal is that it is aggressive, brutal, and intensely erotic. I know certain members of the gay community feel it is intensely manly to put your hands between the legs of another man and I say, "Go for it!" By linking the Denver Broncos' logo with anti-gay legislation or, even worse, Matthew Shepard's death is just faulty logic or attempting to make professional football guilty by association. Many gay men and women are killed in Brazil, Afghanistan, and Iran just to name a few countries in which American style football is not played with or without phallic imagery. Even if we could (and we should certainly try to) eliminate homophobia tomorrow, many people, straight and gay, would still enjoy playing football. So Jim, bend over, stick that butt proudly in the air and hike that ball to me. Huh, huh!

R.S. Carson
San Francisco

Photo finish

I want to thank the many generous friends and supporters who have recently contributed to my camera replacement fund. Response from the community has been very good. Your generosity has helped me immensely to recover from the theft of my equipment last August. I am honored and heartened that so many of you have shown such wonderful appreciation for my work with kind words and generous donations. I have fully replaced all the equipment stolen and am eagerly back at work documenting our community and keeping our history. Thanks again.

Rick Gerhardt
San Francisco

Depending on dependency program

As a psychiatrist who has referred many patients to New Leaf, I was appalled by reading about the possible loss of city funding for that organization as a result of the SF Human Rights Commission findings of gender discrimination (January 28).

While admittedly not knowing the full extent of the internal conflicts of that organization, what I do know is that one of the few chemical dependency programs that specifically serves the gay and lesbian community is now threatened while the raging crystal epidemic takes its toll among us.

The issues of discrimination, unfairness, and dissatisfaction can touch every organization and corporation; this is the nature of humans being in a group. So is the appropriate response to file a complaint with the HRC and seek damages for emotional distress? Was any thought given to consequences of this action to the institution and the community as a whole?

Perhaps more effective conflict resolution needs to be implemented at New Leaf, so things don't get to this place. However, do we always have to go run crying to Mommy and Daddy if things are not going the way we want them to?

George H. Collyer, M.D.
San Francisco

Our noblesse oblige

I read — with a great deal of sadness — the B.A.R. article by Paul Harris, "Are Birch's days numbered at HRC?" on January 21 and Ronnie Burk's follow-up ("Birch bite," Mailstrom, January 28).

There were a number of omissions, such as the fact that Hilary Rosen donated nearly \$50,000 to Democratic candidates in 1998 alone — including \$10,000 to the Democratic National Committee and the maximum \$1,000 to Chuck Schumer's Senate campaign. But more than anything, there was a level of personal attack that was unwarranted and serves to only damage the community.

Elizabeth and Hilary are two of the most competent, loving, and fearless people in today's lesbian and gay movement. No mention was made of Elizabeth standing up to gay-hating Congressman Bob Barr by asking which marriage he was defending in his Defense of Marriage Act — his first, second, or third. HRC's extraordinary work through its Youth College for Campaign Training — of which I am a 1996 graduate — was also neglected. And Hilary and Elizabeth's efforts to nurture young leaders in our community went without notice. I will always remember showing up at Creating Change in Durham, North Carolina with \$20 in my pocket at 15 and having Elizabeth Birch (then board chair of National Gay and Lesbian Task Force) tell me everything would be okay, and it was.

There is much more I can say about this. But perhaps a story I don't tell so often sums it up better than anything I can say. In 1993, just days after learning my HIV status and my 16th birthday, I got on a bus to the March on Washington. For the first time in my life, I felt it was okay to be gay, that there were other people of all ages, sizes, shapes, and colors who were part of a vibrant community to which I belonged. And I knew, just like people in my family who were civil rights marchers of the 1960s, that our time was coming, standing there in Washington on the Mall.

Because I believe that the Millennium March will provide that opportunity to other young GLBTQ people, and quite frankly, people of all ages and genders and colors who feel the need to gather for what is right, I strongly support it. And if others in our community, most of whom share the privilege of living as out gay and lesbian people in urban centers in America, think it's a bad idea, I say spend your time doing something else.

The B.A.R., as a paper that serves the GLBTQ community, has an obligation to build our community, not destroy our leaders. It's an obligation I hope you'll keep at the center of the work you do.

Bill Barnes
San Francisco

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Love does mean something in tennis

by Nancy Boutilier

You know that ever-so-tiny hesitation that gay-positive straight people use when they want to introduce you to a gay friend or when they've just seen a movie with a gay theme? I call it Het-sitation, that slight pause that sets one's gay-dar a-beeping. "I have this friend (Het-sitation) I want you to meet." or "Have you seen the movie (Het-sitation) *Chasing Amy*?"

Well, Het-sitation was alive and kicking like a kangaroo on the sports pages last week as reporters tried to introduce the world to Amelie Mauresmo, the 19-year-old tennis sensation from France who powered her way into the finals of the Australian Open.

When Mauresmo beat top-ranked Lindsay Davenport in the semi-finals, the *Chronicle* carried this tortured effort to say-it-but-not-say-it in its report on the match: "Mauresmo's coach, Christophe Fournier, has not been with her long. She hired him in December, shortly after separating from her South African coach, Warwick Bashford. She came to Melbourne with Fournier and her friend Sylvie Bourdon, who works in the Saint-Tropez and is the reason Mauresmo moved there recently."

Coaches, friends, moves? What a convoluted sentence! Any high school journalism teacher would insist on a rewrite.

Of course, there are less gay-friendly ways of hinting. The same afternoon, an *Examiner* headline dubbed Mauresmo the "Mystery Monster." Since the article contained no reference to a 'monster,' I can only imagine that because attention was paid to Mauresmo's strong shoulders and because Davenport likened Mauresmo's game to a man's – and manliness in a woman is monstrous – some Neanderthal in the headline department felt the need to dip into the bestiary.

Excuse me? What kind of monster would that be – a vam-pire, a hydra, or a lesbian?

Those two bits of indirection were all I needed to know that we were dealing with a dyke. A quick jog around the Internet confirmed that Mauresmo and her girlfriend, Sylvie Bourdon, are quite comfortably out – out enough so that a few pointed questions about Mauresmo's game and physique yielded soundbytes from Davenport and Martina Hingis that could be used to cast shadows on Mauresmo.

It seems to me that writers who are not prepared to name lesbianism what it is should not feel at liberty to use stereotypes to hint at it. If a writer is uncomfortable with the thought of outing the tennis sensation directly, then there's no excuse for highlighting a few phrases from her competitors with the aim of raising speculation about Mauresmo's femininity and sexuality.

Admittedly, the 18-year-old Hingis put her Nike in her mouth. "She's here with her girlfriend," Hingis said of Mauresmo, adding "she is half a man." Later, Hingis tried to distance herself from the



comment. "A half man – who would say that?" asked Hingis, knowing she had blown it, but not knowing her comment had been taped. She tried to suggest she was talking about Mauresmo's game, and then claimed a language error. "It's just bad talking, you know?"

Truth is, it was probably a homophobic slip, what Mauresmo later called "a very bad joke." Hingis said it in German, which could have felt to her like an off-the-record remark when in an English-speaking country. Still, someone named for Martina Navratilova should have known better.

Davenport, who seems as down-to-earth and intelligent as world-class athletes come, was speaking 10 minutes after her disappointing loss when she compared Mauresmo's game to a man's. Indeed, some elements of Mauresmo's game – specifically the combined power and topspin of her one-handed backhand – are rare, perhaps even unique, in women's tennis. Davenport marveled at Mauresmo's shoulder.

Some reporters couldn't resist letting those comments suggest that something about Mauresmo wasn't quite right – too manly, too strong, perhaps enhanced unnaturally. But Davenport knows what it's like to be called too big and too strong. The full text of the interview (available on the Internet) convinced me that Davenport was actually speaking in admiration of Mauresmo's game, power, and physique. More importantly, she was focused on Mauresmo's play, not on her social circle.

The game, of course, went on. Reports of the Hingis-Mauresmo final echoed with the femme-butcher construct once dolled up for Evert-Navratilova show-downs: "They stood in marked contrast to each other, Hingis looking as if she were posing for a fashion magazine, wearing a tailored dress and adorned with an expensive gold watch and earrings. Mauresmo looked as if she'd just come off a public court, wearing shorts and a tank-top that revealed her sculpted shoulders."

In contrast to the print re-

ports, the telecast of the finals on ESPN, featuring Fred Stolle, Cliff Drysdale, and Pam Shriver as commentators, allowed for frank and supportive acknowledgment of the events surrounding the innuendo as well as the fact of Mauresmo's relationship. The cameras cut to Bourdon as often as they did to Hingis's mother.

Davenport, furious with the way her comments were used to fuel speculation about Mauresmo's sexuality, blasted reporters and sent Mauresmo a note of apology before leaving Melbourne. Hingis, gracious toward Mauresmo throughout the final, expressed the hope of addressing Mauresmo in private. Perhaps mentor Chris Evert will give Hingis a call and offer her a dose of the open-mindedness which allowed Evert and Navratilova to remain close friends in spite of the media efforts to contrast and divide them.

For a sport often accused of being elitist and out of touch with the rest of society, tennis seems remarkably in step with lesbian visibility. In the 1970s, Billie Jean King pioneered women's sport while married, butch, and outspokenly feminist. Outed by a palimony suit, she remains representative of her time. She stood by her marriage for a while, has kept low profile about her woman-to-woman affections, and speaks out in principle rather than with personal testimony.

Then came Martina Navratilova, struggling with her identity and self-confidence. Surrounding herself with strong, athletic women, she first acknowledged being bisexual, then "a woman who preferred women." Eventually she came out as a lesbian and shared her spotlight in the tennis world with her girlfriend. She was willing to carry the torch, addressing the 1993 March on Washington for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender rights. Martina was a tennis and civil rights champion for the 1980s.

At the close of the century Amelie Mauresmo stands heir-apparent to Martina. She has emerged, like so many teens today, out and proud from the get-go, unwilling to do time in the closet. I don't know the coming out story of this young Frenchwoman, but I do know she's al-

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POLITICS

The mayoral race

by Wayne Friday

A Baldassare Associates poll for the *San Francisco Chronicle* three months ago found that 43 percent of the city's voters said they would not vote to re-elect Mayor **Willie Brown** if the election were held then. The poll clearly revealed that the flamboyant Brown could be beaten in the coming November election if a strong opponent materialized. Three months after the *Chron* poll, some people who know these things still feel the mayor is highly vulnerable, while others insist that he is unbeatable. With the election still 10 months away, I would have to say that Brown's re-election chances look pretty good. **Quentin Kopp**, once seen as Brown's strongest probable opponent, is now a San Mateo County judge and is out of the picture.

Tom Ammiano, the popular new president of the Board of Supervisors, tells the *Bay Area Reporter* that although "more and more" people are urging him to run, he has no plans to enter the race; he added that he has "tenuously" endorsed the mayor for re-election. Supervisor **Leland Yee**, an Ammiano ally on the board, is also often mentioned as a possible candidate for mayor; Yee tells us that he is still "exploring a possible run," hasn't ruled out a candidacy, and will probably make a decision within two months. Most City Hall observers feel that despite Yee's strong political base in the city's Asian community, he will eventually decide against entering the race.

Former Mayor **Frank Jordan** told me this week he is definitely "evaluating another run" for the office that Brown took from him in the last mayoral election, but has not yet come to a decision, despite "a lot of encouragement from people" who are "obviously disappointed that the mayor has failed in his promises he made about the homeless problem, Muni, and other quality of life issues." Jordan criticized the mayor in particular on the growing homeless problem, saying that "even some of the mayor's friends are admitting that the problem has become more severe since he took office."

While many believe that Mayor Brown (despite heavy criticism from voters on the Muni and homeless problems in particular) is probably unbeatable in November, former campaign consultant **Clynt Reilly** would argue that point. Reilly, who has tons of money to spend, will definitely become a candidate and his announcement is expected shortly. Can Reilly knock Brown off? I wouldn't bet on it, even with almost unlimited personal funds to spend. Brown clearly isn't the most popular mayor ever to run this town, but he is one of the smartest. He already has locked up the support of the S.F. Central Labor Council and the county Democratic Party machinery, and has the encouragement of most of the city's leading political figures. He also has a powerful political ally in Sacramento by the name of Governor **Gray Davis**.

Anything could happen before now and November, but, lacking

a political surprise of the year, Brown looks like a sure bet for re-election. I don't - at the moment, anyway - see anyone out there who can defeat him, despite the lingering (and growing) homeless problem - the one issue, incidentally, that helped defeat Brown's two predecessors, Jordan and **Art Agnos**. Still, If I were a betting man I'd probably be putting my money on the mayor for re-election; it looks like a second term for Brown in November.

Politics and people

Will they never learn? The California Republican Party will hold its annual state convention later this month (February 26-28) and reports are that party members, still smarting over their losses to the Democrats last November, are angrily pointing fingers at each other and about to do war with themselves. Look for the main battle to be over the issue that continues to self-destruct the Republicans: abortion.

As for the state of the national Republicans? Even *Hustler* magazine's porn publisher **Larry Flynt** is now enjoying higher polling numbers than is the GOP-controlled Congress.

And **Monica Lewinsky** is back - the thong-favoring chubby Valley Girl was back in Washington, D.C. this week, but she seems to have given up the infamous beret in favor of a baseball cap with the initials "TSG" on the front. According to the *Washington Post*, her latest boyfriend is a young man named **Jonathan Marshall**, who happens to be the general counsel of The Shooting Gallery (TSG), a Los Angeles independent film company. If nothing else the former First Intern has quickly learned the ways of promotion - and Monica was reportedly overheard telling a friend at the Mayflower Hotel that she thinks she's "all that" in the stylish cap. (Yes, I am interested in hearing what my creative readers originally thought the letters "TSG" stood for on her cap. Keep it clean. On second thought, don't.)

When Vice President **Al Gore** breezed through the state last week, passing out money and promises of more of the same, it marked the 53rd trip he has made to the state since becoming Clinton's veep. His Democratic supporters here say we'll be seeing more of him as the March presidential primary of next year approaches; California's huge block of 54 electoral votes looms large in Gore's plans to become the next president, and his close relationship with Davis should not go unnoticed either. The national Demo nominating convention will likely be held in Los Angeles next year and Gore's support among top state Democrats like Davis and Senator **Dianne Feinstein** should send a clear message to any other Demo hopefuls that the Golden State is likely already in Gore's camp. Meanwhile, some of those close to the vice president point out that no Democrat has won the White House in over 40 years without carrying California, and the possibility that Feinstein could end up as Gore's veep choice grows, particularly if the Republicans (who hold their nominating confab before the

Democrats do) pick a woman like **Elizabeth Dole** for one of the spots on their ticket.

Former California Attorney General **Dan Lungren**, mulling over job offers from several top Republican law firms, is now doing a radio talk show five days a week (*The Dan Lungren Show*) on the Catholic Family Radio Network. Lungren, who during his gubernatorial run, proclaimed that "we have to be a religious people" if society is to succeed, should feel right at home working for KPLS-AM, which originates from Orange County and does not make the airwaves in Northern California.

Oakland Mayor **Jerry Brown**, appearing at the Book Depot in Mill Valley last week to sign and read parts of his new book *Dialogues*, (a collection of contemporary artists, philosophers, and futurists), drew nearly 300. I guess that proves the man once known as "Governor Moonbeam" is still one of the more popular and imaginative elected officials in Northern California, and lends credence to the likelihood that he won't be content merely to be the mayor of the East Bay city.

In Nashville, a group of United Methodist Church members have filed ecclesiastical charges against one of the 95 ministers who jointly performed a blessing ceremony for a lesbian couple last month in Sacramento. The charges are based on a ruling last August by the Methodists' highest court that a policy statement against same-sex blessings in the church's Book of Discipline is binding law. And, in San Francisco last week, 50 Catholics petitioned Oakland Bishop **John Cummins** to defrock a Pleasanton pastor for allowing blessings of gay unions. The targeted priest, Father **Dan Danielson** of St. Augustine's Church, said he had authorized three gay blessings in his church but that he did not conduct the ceremonies himself. The petition said, in part, "we are aware of the church's constant teaching that 'homosexual acts are acts of grave depravity' and of the Pope's clear teaching that such relationships must never be blessed by the church."

Sacramento insiders say that there is no love lost between Davis and state Superintendent of Public Instruction **Delaine Eastin**, who made a television ad endorsing **Al Checchi** for governor in last year's Democratic primary. Eastin has reportedly already become a non-person as far as Gray, the self-described "Education Governor," is concerned. Although Eastin has 1,250 employees, Davis gets to fill vacancies on the 11-member state Board of Education, which sets all policies for Eastin's department, and the governor has given former state Senator **Gary Hart** cabinet rank to guide his education programs through the capital. Eastin, whose budget is also the product of the governor's office, is said to be definitely on Davis's non-invite list.

Finally, **Gary Bauer**, probably the most anti-gay, anti-abortion, right wing guy in Washington (other, perhaps, than **Pat Buchanan**) announced his presidential candidacy Sunday on NBC's *Meet The Press*, and let's hope the Republican Party has the "wisdom" of nominating this homophobe for president next year, maybe even with Buchanan as his veep choice.

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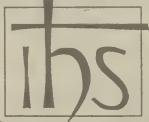
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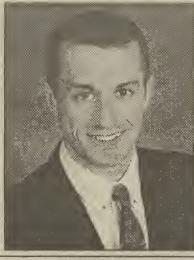
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Miss GAPA 1998, StickEEE!!!, gives a welcoming hug to Al and Jane Nakatani, parents of gay children who were active in Hawaii's recent campaign to legalize same-sex marriage. They were the keynote speakers at the 11th Annual GAPA Banquet & Celebration on January 30, which had the theme: "Marriage . . . Anyone?" The GAPA Dance Troupe performed, and the Godz Award was given to GAPA co-chair David Yau.

FOX: turn up the heat

by Liz Tracey, GLAAD publications manager

On Thursday, January 21, GLAAD issued a special online alert regarding that night's episode of *FOX Files*, the FOX Network's tabloid television news magazine. Having learned that the segment, "Undercover in the Night," might be defamatory to the lesbian, gay, and transgender (LGBT) community, we asked that people watch the segment. On Friday, January 22, GLAAD issued a press release condemning the episode (see more below) and demanding that FOX take the following actions:

• agree to never air the segment again, whether on FOX or on the FOX News Channel

• issue an on-air apology on the next edition of *FOX Files*

• issue a written statement to the LGBT community

• agree to work with GLAAD on a segment covering LGBT youth, eschewing the sensational and exploitative tone that "Undercover in the Night" was told with.

As of this date, Roger Ailes, president of FOX News and former Republican strategist, has not returned phone calls from Joan M. Garry, GLAAD executive director, or Scott Seomin, GLAAD entertainment media director. Publicly, FOX has only said that they found the segment "a fair and accurate portrayal of the dangerous fringe of the gay, lesbian, and transgender community."

GLAAD has issued a compendium of statements from community-based organizations, as well as media analysts. We have received numerous copies of letters written by members of the community to Ailes, asking that FOX meet with GLAAD and take responsibility for the story. As of this time, Ailes' e-mail address is no longer working, and none of the letters have been responded to substantively.

It is not GLAAD's policy to release voice phone numbers of outlets that are mentioned in GLAADAlert, whether positively or negatively. We believe that each outlet should be approached with the respect and consideration which we would hope GLAAD would be met with by them. However, in the face of FOX's and Ailes' grave unwillingness to engage in meaningful dialogue regarding "Undercover in the Night," we are suspending this

policy in order to encourage a response from the network.

As this is a serious undertaking, GLAAD asks those who phone to share their concern to do so with the respect that FOX has yet to show us. Please call FOX News at (212) 301-3000, and Roger Ailes at (212) 301-8224, and tell them that our community will not be ignored, and that their silence speaks volumes about the news network that bills itself as "fair and balanced."

If you wish to read the full press release issued by GLAAD on January 22, point your web browser to <http://www.glaad.org> and click on the *FOX Files* banner. You can read the compendium of statements there as well.

If you contact FOX News or Ailes via fax or e-mail, please copy GLAAD on the letter, so that we may keep a record of your correspondence. You can find the contact information below.

Contact Roger Ailes, Chief Executive Officer, FNC/FOX News Channel, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10036, Voice phone (212) 301-8224; fax phone (212) 301-4229; e-mail: comments@foxnews.com; <http://www.foxnews.com/foxfiles/>

Intel chips away at privacy

Last week, Intel announced that each of their new computer chips, the Pentium III, would have a unique serial number, which would be broadcast to help e-commerce (i.e. web shopping) sites verify the user's identity, and helping prevent credit card fraud. Unfortunately, Intel seemed to have forgotten about the needs of those who use the web and Internet specifically because of the anonymity of the medium.

Intel said that the "feature" would be turned on when a consumer received the computer containing the chip from the factory. The user could then turn the feature off for each individual user session, but upon restart, would then reinstate the serial number, making it available to other computers.

Upon learning of the release, electronic privacy groups EPIC (Electronic Privacy Information Center) and Junkbusters called for a boycott of Intel. GLAAD, along with John Aravosis of Wired Strategies, and Carl Pritzkat of Mediapolis, issued a release call-

ing for Intel to voluntarily remove the "feature" out of concern for the LGBT community.

As we learned with the Timothy McVeigh/AOL case, where McVeigh's identity was revealed by an AOL employee, beginning a chain of events that forced him from the military, most often breaches of privacy online are due to human action. What Intel has done is make the threat to users' privacy much greater, as those who may not be technologically adept may not understand how to turn the serial number off, or may simply forget. This may track the user across the Internet, broadcasting their identity to sites and helping them collect information on their visitors. Results could

be disastrous: employees may be fired for contacting a LGBT informational site in a state with no job protection legislation; young people may be confronted about their sexual orientation long before they're willing (or able) to discuss it with parents or educators; identities may be stolen and used against the person.

As of this writing, Intel has announced that it will release the chip with the serial number turned off; however, they have not yet agreed to disable the feature completely. While this is certainly a positive response, the full removal of the serial number is essential to preserving the personal privacy of members of the LGBT community, let alone those who simply don't want their computers to be tracked.

Please contact Intel and tell them that the Internet is too important to our community to be lost to the threat of unwanted disclosure.

Contact Andrew Grove, Chairman of the Board, Intel Corporation, 2200 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara CA 95052-8119, feedback: <http://www.intel.com/feedback.htm>

GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity. Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's toll-free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA

COMMUNITY NEWS

Who's watching the watcher?

by Ron McGlashan

2 500 block of Fillmore, Tuesday, January 19, 8 p.m. A man in the area went on vacation and asked a neighbor to watch his residence while he was away. When he returned, he discovered his CD collection, valued at \$8,100, had been stolen. The police took a report and are seeking the man who was watching the residence.

Assault with weapons on Eddy

600 block of Eddy, Sunday, January 24, 2:30 a.m. Police responded to a residential hotel in the area where there had been a fight over too much noise coming from one of the rooms. All parties involved were injured and paramedics were called to the scene. Police reported that knives and five-pound weights were used as weapons. No one wanted to press charges.

Robbery with a knife on Eddy Street

600 block of Eddy, Tuesday, January 19, 7:30 p.m. For the second time in the past week a man entered this establishment and threatened the manager with a knife. The suspect demanded money in the safe and threatened to kill the manager. Police arrived and took a report and description of the suspect, who's being sought for questioning.

Auto boost at Turk and Larkin

Turk and Larkin, Saturday, January 16, 4:30 p.m. A man reported to the Northern Station that his vehicle had been broken into at the corner of Turk and Larkin streets. Several items valued at \$3,000 had been stolen and the vehicle was heavily damaged. A stolen property report was made.

Elderly couple assaulted at Polk and Geary

Polk and Geary, Tuesday, January 19, 7 p.m. An elderly man and his wife were at this intersection getting ready to cross Geary Street when a man bumped into the husband and the victim said, "Watch it." The suspect then hit the man in the face several times as people in the area stood and watched. Police responded and took a report. The victim was evaluated by paramedics but was not transported to a hospital.

Man nabbed by narcotics on Van Ness

Van Ness and Market, Sunday, January 24, 12 p.m. For the second time in six months a man was taken into custody for selling a controlled substance to an undercover agent. The man, known as "ET," was on probation at the time of the alleged sale to the police officer. He is in custody and awaits trial on February 28.

Armed robbery on Lombard Street

1400 block of Lombard, Sunday, January 24, 7:30 p.m. A woman walked into a restaurant, pulling a mask over her face as she entered the building. She ordered the manager to give her the money from the cash drawer. When the manager told the woman that she did not have any money, the suspect produced a gun and threatened to shoot the manager. The manager complied under fear of death, and emptied the cash drawer. The woman fled down Lombard Street and was not found by officers.

'Wetback Night'

◀ page 3

is and that's the way it's gonna stay. We even welcome the controversy because it gives voice to real concerns, even if it is just a bunch of bored San Franciscans."

"Anyone who knows me in the least knows that I love to stir up controversy," stated Trannyshack founder Heklina. "In these oh-so-politically-correct times, it's ever so easy to do. I don't pretend to do it under the guise of creating dialogue or raising people's aware-

ness. Not really. I just love to stand back and watch people whip themselves into a frenzy."

The "Wetback Night" promoters, in a surprise twist, began handing out flyers stating that "Wetback Night" has been officially changed to "Mexican Heritage Night." The issue then, perhaps, will leave the Stud's arena and enter the wider community that was so deeply offended that night. "Wetback Night" will be politically correct-ified and become trannies who are just plain proud of who they are. Wherever they are. ▼

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*Not all dental services are covered. Details of program available from office staff during the times listed above. Information not available on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Theft on Van Ness

700 block of Van Ness, Thursday, January 28, 1:30 p.m. A customer walked into a camera shop and asked to look at some of the cameras in a display case. The woman took one of the cameras outside the shop to inspect it and as she did a man took one of the cameras from the counter and left the shop. A description was taken from the security video. During the commotion, the woman who first entered the shop left the area. Police suspect this was a team effort.

Drug alert in the Castro

The drug Blue Nitro is unavailable in the city. The SFPD reminds the community that all variations of this drug are illegal and enforcement action will be taken against people who are selling this chemical.



Violence between Geary and Post streets

The Northern Station advises that residents in the area use caution, especially during evening hours. The area will be a special focal point for officers due to an ongoing problem with strong-arm activities. If there is a problem, call police immediately.

Polk Street score for the week

Fourteen men and women have been cited for prostitution-related charges in the Polk Street area this week. Eleven of them had outstanding warrants regarding other activities in the area, but all 14 have been cited in the past.

This column is brought to you as a public service of the SFPD Office of Public Affairs and the men and women of the SFPD. For information or suggestions, call the office at (415) 553-1651, or call Ron at (415) 776-9399, or pager (415) 201-6004.

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Accessing HIV info on the Internet

by Jeff Gustavson, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

The Internet has proven to be a great democratizing force when it comes to HIV information. Since the earliest days of the AIDS crisis, people with HIV have struggled to get as much information as they could, often winding up knowing as much as their doctor (if not, occasionally, more). Unfortunately, the definitive final chapters on HIV have yet to be written.

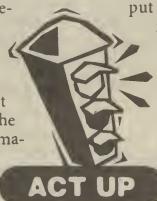
As with all information, quantity does not always equal quality. The best sites for HIV information are continually updated, since the field of HIV changes so rapidly. Today's hearsay is tomorrow's gospel and vice versa, a cautionary shadow to those who would remain closed to revising opinion despite rigorous evidence. Searchability of a given site is also useful, but if never actually tested by the website's designers can be frustrating for the visitor. What follows are the addresses of some of the best sites, and a brief review of each.

<http://www.hivinsite.ucsf.edu>

This site contains a wealth of information across a broad range of understanding – from the most elementary questions of transmission to a map of the viral genome, as well as a virtual textbook on AIDS, the AIDS Knowledge Base. This online textbook devotes sections to basic science, legal issues around HIV, epidemiology, and clinical management. HIV Insite has everything from a law library to an e-mail list to which anyone may subscribe free of charge.

<http://www.healthcg.com/hiv>

The Healthcare Communications Group runs this site, which maintains state-of-the-art current medical information. Although aimed towards healthcare



also devotes a fair amount of space to the paramount social issues of the epidemic. On the down side, the search function will return erroneous clinical trials eligibility information.

<http://www.projinf.org>

Some of the best people in town are at Project Inform. From tips on how to spot AIDS fraud to an outstanding opinion piece on clinical trial design this site can

put the crux of the matter into plain English better than anyone. Nevertheless, it has flaws. The Antiviral treatment information incorrectly listed efavirenz/Sustiva and abacavir/Ziagen as still being evaluated in clinical trials, even though the FDA granted them accelerated approval – a fact that was reported correctly both in the What's New? area of the site and in their archive of PI Perspective.

<http://www.aegis.com>

This site bills itself as the "largest AIDS/HIV knowledge base in the world," with over 700,000 indexed documents. Started and largely run by a Roman Catholic nun, Sister Mary Elizabeth, this comprehensive site has everything from a law library to an e-mail list to which anyone may subscribe free of charge.

<http://www.healthcg.com/hiv>

The Healthcare Communications Group runs this site, which maintains state-of-the-art current medical information. Although aimed towards healthcare

providers, anyone can find summaries from all the latest conferences without spending the airfare or registration fee. One disappointment, however, is clicking on their "Ask the Experts" hyperlink – only to be greeted by a message promising its imminent coming.

<http://www.critpath.org>

Perhaps the ultimate in empowerment, this Philadelphia-based website was founded by and for people with AIDS. It has information on complementary therapies for HIV and hosts web pages for over 80 smaller community-based organizations, including such seminal activist groups as ACT UP/New York, and many links to other sites on the web.

<http://www.hopkins-AIDS.edu>

This site is run by the Johns Hopkins University medical school and is aimed at giving both practitioners and people with HIV a forum to submit questions, which are answered and then archived after 15 days. One of the best things about this site is it has an online, often updated, version of renowned physician John G. Bartlett's book, *Medical Management of HIV Infection*. Although densely written, it is not insurmountable and very detailed.

Keep two things in mind when using the Internet: since the field of HIV and AIDS makes all data time-sensitive it is important to be aware of whether the information you're reading is current, and – more important – something isn't necessarily true just because it's out there. ▼

Scholarship deadline nears for SF March AIDS confab

by Cynthia Laird

Organizers, including the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), are gearing up for a "totally new" 11th National HIV/AIDS Update Conference scheduled for March 23-26 at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in San Francisco. This year's theme is "Partnering Science and Practice," and KREBS Convention Management Services is once again handling registration, including 200 scholarships.

The scholarship application deadline for interested people to send their request to KREBS, including a statement of need, is Friday, February 12. No scholarships will be made available after that date, or at the door. The scholarships cover conference registration fees only, and are not available for intensive workshops, continuing education credit, travel, or hotel accommodations.

People interested in the conference but who are not in need can still take advantage of early registration discounts, which expire Monday, February 15. The fee for the full conference is

\$250; people living with HIV/AIDS and students can register for \$100. After February 15, those fees increase to \$300 and \$125 respectively. Extra costs for two intensive workshops are \$95 for each session before February 15 or \$120 each after that date. There is also a \$50 fee per category for continuing education credit.

Former San Francisco Health Director Dr. Mervyn F. Silverman, with AmFAR, said this year the conference has been revamped. "Not only are the tracks more focused than in the past, but the presentation of programs is more interactive," he stated. "Complex issues will be debated by the experts with the active involvement of the participants."

Nationally known speakers have been invited, according to the preliminary schedule, including former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders and Sandra Thurman, director of the White House Office of AIDS Policy.

The conference program includes five tracks: affected communities – adolescents and young people, communities of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, seniors, substance

abusers, and women; mental health; prevention; public policy; and research and clinical management.

The plenary sessions have been designed to involve the audience not only as observers, but also as participants. Two of the programs will have a debate format and will explore very complex issues. They are: early versus later initiation of antiviral therapy – not only when to begin therapy, but which therapy is the most appropriate to use first; and post-exposure prophylaxis for people exposed to HIV through sexual contact or injection drug use – whether it is an appropriate public health intervention and, if so, how it can be integrated into comprehensive HIV prevention programs. ▼

To apply for a scholarship, send your request with a statement of need to KREBS Convention Management Services, 657 Carolina Street, San Francisco, CA 94107-2725; or fax to (415) 920-7001. The website is www.nauc.org. For other registration information, call KREBS at (415) 920-7000.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Retroviral conference opens in Chicago

by Bob Roehr

Chimpanzees were the big news on Sunday, January 31, opening day of the sixth Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, which runs through February 1 in Chicago.

Dr. Beatrice Hahn believes she has found the animal model in which HIV first developed and was passed on to man. The identification could be very important because chimps are the animals that are genetically the most similar to man. Humans share 98 percent of the same genome, or DNA blueprint.

Because the virus does not appear to be harmful to chimpanzees, studying the genetic differences between chimps and man, and how their immune system is able to suppress the virus, may offer clues to how to control the virus in humans.

Hahn and her colleagues at the University of Alabama at Birmingham analyzed the mitochondrial DNA of HIV-1 and the virus in monkeys and chimps. They found the chimp version to be the equivalent of a missing link between the other two better-known forms of the virus.

They concluded that the virus had crossed from chimps to man at least three separate occasions, resulting in the three subgroups of HIV-1 known as M, N, and O. Hahn offered no suggestion as to when this might have occurred, but it must have been prior to the 1940s because virus in stored human blood samples can be detected.

Hahn is concerned that this discovery may not be put to use, because the chimpanzee is an endangered species. That is in part because of the increased pressure of development on their environment. They are frequently killed for meat as the population increases.

The conference

The retroviral conference began when travel restrictions imposed by conservatives in Congress led to cancellation of an international AIDS conference scheduled to be held in the United States. The founders intended "to get together basic and clinical investigators to exchange information," said chairman, Dr. Douglas Richman, a senior researcher at the University of California at San Diego.

"The quality of the material is really first class," he said. Of the



Beatrice Hahn, MD

1,600 abstracts submitted for consideration this year, only 100 were granted time for oral presentation, while 600 will be available at "poster" sessions.

Richman called these "most exciting times in that more seems to be getting accomplished in more areas. Things are sort of fitting together, integrating," which is the way most research works. "It's not Madame Curie discovers radium," he said.

He highlighted "revolutionary" new methods of testing that are giving researchers a better understanding of how the immune system works and how it can reconstitute itself under powerful therapies such as protease inhibitors, which hold the virus in check. This has important implications for developing both new therapies and preventative vaccines.

Conference vice chair Dr. Constance Benson, from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, noted the decline in opportunistic infections. She reminded the audience that people are still dying of opportunistic infections, but doctors are also seeing "changing manifestations of HIV infection."

One reporter asked about a recent article in the *Wall Street Journal* on "pulsing" or stopping and starting therapy, with the intent of triggering an increased immune response. Richman was cautious, saying, "The most important point is that we have experience from thousands and thousands of patients who stopped their therapy, and the virus comes back very quickly."

"My concern is that these anecdotes, which are very interesting, not be overly interpreted as strategies that people start trying themselves. [If they do so] we are going to have a lot of misadven-

tures."

Back to the future

"The future is measuring therapeutic blood levels," said Dr. Stefano Vella, in his review of state-of-the-art retroviral therapy, which opened the meeting on February 1. But the future may take a while in coming.

"We don't know exactly, the optimal time to switch therapy to maximize subsequent options.... It may vary a lot from person to person and regimen to regimen." Because some people who have virological failure "still do well clinically."

Vella asked the rhetorical question: "Does resistance [genotypic and phenotypic] testing provide incremental benefit to treatment history? I think this is a question that still has to be answered?" He saw limited retrospective data and even less data that looked at the predictive value of these tests for directing use of therapy options.

"Hit it hard, hit it early" became the dominant treatment philosophy with the advent of protease inhibitors. Dr. Robert "Chip" Schooley, a driving force behind founding the conference, admitted that approach might be losing ground in light of more recent information.

"The 'hard' part hasn't changed," he argued, saying that the goal should be to get initial viral suppression below detectable levels. "But the 'when' may have changed," largely because of what people now know of side effects, mutations, and the effect on using other drugs in the future. ▼

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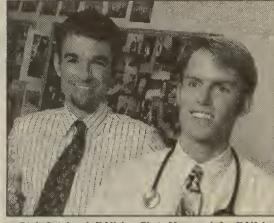
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Dr. Kelly is the former manager of the HIV Neurobehavioral Research Center at University of California, San Diego.



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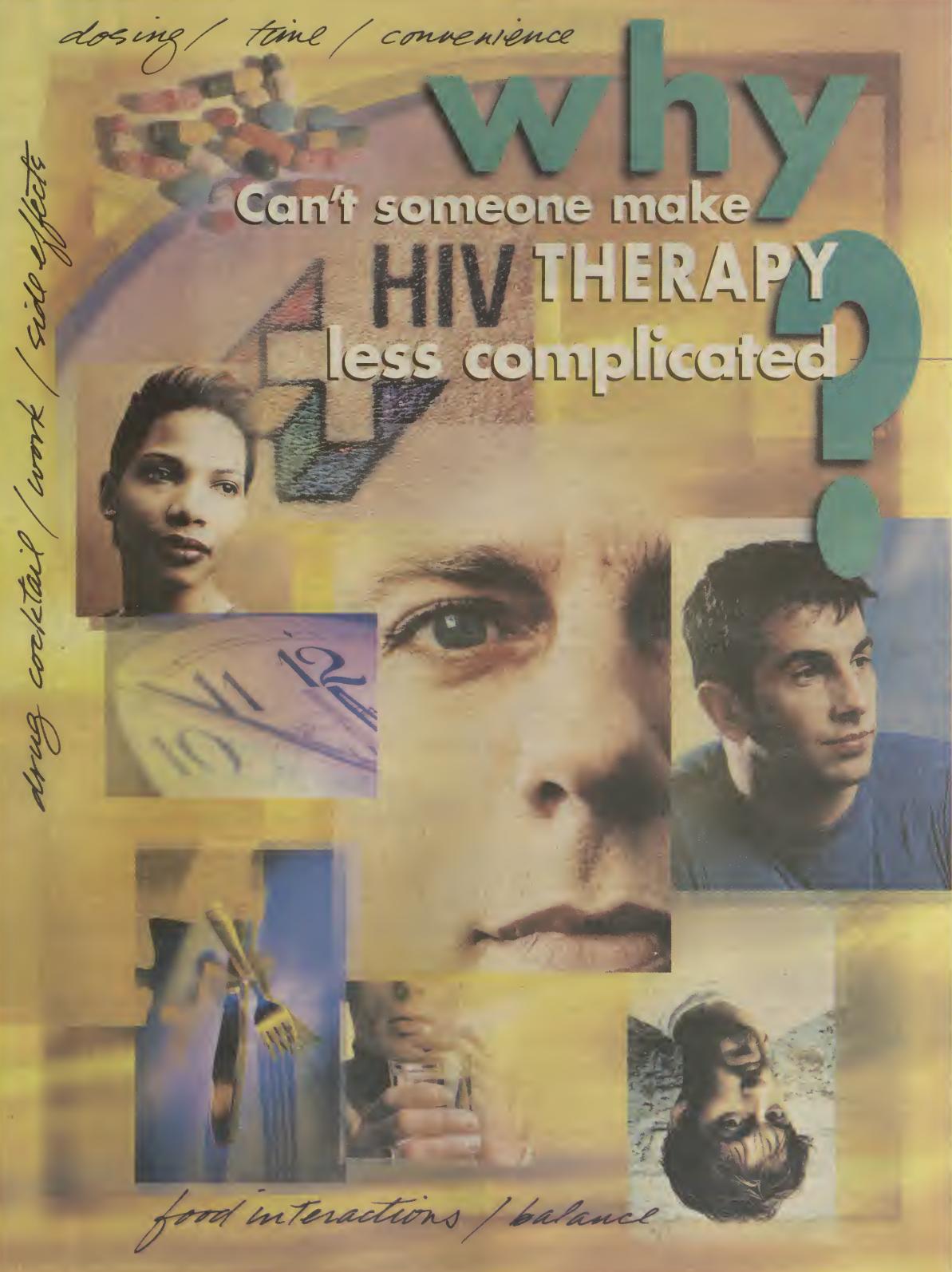
ready been able to tell a *New York Times* reporter "When the media asks me what's going on in my life, I'm obliged to talk about this because it's part of my life. ... I'm not going to get unanimous support for this. Not everybody is going to be behind my back saying, 'Super!' But no matter what they do, there will always be people against me. With that in mind, I decided to make my sexuality clear."

Each step of visibility – in the tennis world and beyond – has been accompanied by forms the

discomfort and backlash. The Het-sitation, innuendo, stigmatizing, and name-calling are likely to continue. But so are the opportunities for honest discussion and increased understanding.

The swoosh-laden Mauresmo had this to say about the implication of her lesbianism on her sponsorship: "I think things have evolved and, in my opinion, if they want to set me aside, there will be dozens more who will take me. It's clear. And if they let me go for that, they are jerks anyway."

Bravo! Sounds like the perfect "just do it" attitude for the next millennium. But, for now, if someone tells you that love means nothing in tennis, don't believe it. ▼



someone just did!



New SUSTIVA® is the first HIV drug approved to be taken once-a-day as part of your combination therapy. Just take three 200 mg capsules together once daily, with or without food; high fat meals should be avoided. Your doctor may suggest taking SUSTIVA at bedtime to reduce any side effects you may experience.

SUSTIVA, an NNRTI*, must be used in combination with other HIV drugs.

SUSTIVA is tough on HIV. It reduces the amount of virus in your blood and increases the number of CD4 cells. SUSTIVA can even be used in young children, 3 years of age or older. This is based on results from controlled clinical trials at 24 weeks. Presently, there are no results from controlled clinical trials showing the long-term effects of SUSTIVA.

SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

We know that coping with HIV is difficult enough. Your treatment doesn't have to be. Ask your doctor about SUSTIVA. For more important information see the next page for Patient Information about SUSTIVA.

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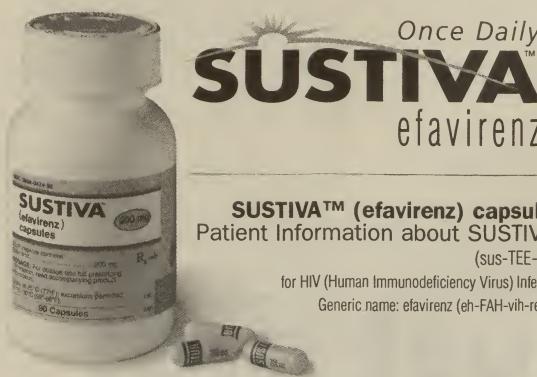
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*NNRTI - non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor

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SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz) capsules Patient Information about SUSTIVA*

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

Many patients have hiccups, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:**

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA.**

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Organizers say Texas TG Lobby Day was a success

by Katrina C. Rose

Several months ago, when Sarah DePalma, president of the Texas Gender Advocacy Information Network (TGAIN), began planning a lobbying effort for the 1999 Texas legislative session she was hoping to get 20 people to participate. To say that she was pleased with the turnout for the Texas Transgender Lobby Day Wednesday, January 27 would be an understatement. Fifty-two people spent the day lobbying, the first state capital effort of its kind in the nation. (There have been several efforts in the past to lobby Congress.) They expressed support for passage of the Texas Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the repeal of the Homosexual Conduct Statute, and lobbied against the anti-adoption bills and the marriage non-recognition bill.

Prominent Houston attorney and longtime transgender rights activist Phyllis Frye was pleased, not just with the numbers but also with the diversity of the group, which included people of color, MTFs, FTM, and spouses of TGs.

The group received words of encouragement at a Tuesday evening training session from Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas President Dianne Hardy-Garcia and openly gay Democratic State Representative Glen

Maxey. Maxey, now in his fifth term, let the group know that change is possible, noting that when he first came to the Legislature the other representatives moved their desks to avoid being near him, but now his desk is at the front of the House floor.

The encouragement must have worked. Frye's tally indicates that the TGAIN members visited offices of 140 of the 150 House members and 28 of the 31 state senators (sometimes meeting only with staffers, but in many instances with the legislator), over 90 percent of state lawmakers. Longtime Houston Representative Debra Danburg said the lobbying effort was one of the more effective ones that she has seen in Austin, and that many of her fellow legislators were impressed as well.

One MTF, who was a first-timer at lobbying, lamented receiving a Bible-based mini-lecture about marriage being a union between one man and one woman in one conservative representative's office. "But, even with this conservative representative's staff and their stance on DOMA [Defense of Marriage Act]," she said, "we managed to open some eyes on employment discrimination."

Frye, who was recently announced as being this year's recipient of the International Foundation for Gender Education's Vir-

ginia Prince Lifetime Achievement Award, said that lobbyist was not alone. "When one team was told nicely but very firmly by one legislative aide that her legislator would absolutely not vote in favor of a Texas ENDA to protect the jobs of LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender] Texans, the team suggested that her pro-business, lower-taxes legislator must be in favor of higher welfare," she recounted.

"Taken aback, the aide asked and was told that all us LGBTs want is to be employed taxpayers and that, without a Texas ENDA, many of us remain unemployed tax consumers of welfare. As the team left, the aide said that the boss's 'no' vote was maybe not so firm after all and that she would discuss the issue further with her legislator boss."

That novice lobbyist added, "Seeing the looks on some of the legislative aides' faces when they actually 'got it' with ENDA was nice. Still, I am realistic about its chances of passing."

"Even so, I had a hand in personally showing a few lawmakers that transsexuals are not what they see on *Jerry Springer*. That's a success."

DePalma viewed the effort as a success far beyond the specific lobbying of the day. Proudly, she said that January 26 and 27 "will be remembered as the days when Texas transgenders took charge of their political destiny and achieved a full-throated voice of their own." ▼

Lesbian book seeks input

by Liz Highleyman

Cleis Press, the San Francisco-based publisher of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender books, is currently seeking input for a new book on lesbian sex.

The Whole Lesbian Sex Book, described as "the first comprehensive lesbian sex book in a decade," will be written by Cleis co-founder Felice Newman. The book will include anonymous quotes from a broad range of lesbians and bisexual women, both traditionally and non-traditionally gendered.

Lesbian and bisexual women are invited to share their experiences, teach others what they've learned, rant about difficulties, rave about successes, and tell their favorite stories. An extensive questionnaire is available on the Cleis Press website at www.cleispress.com. The survey features sections on body image, butch/femme, sex toys, penetration, masturbation, fetishes, health, and much more.

The deadline for questionnaires is March 31. *The Whole Lesbian Sex Book* is scheduled for release by December 1999. For more information, contact Felice Newman at Cleis Press, P.O. Box 14684, San Francisco, CA 94114, or send e-mail to fncleis@aol.com. ▼

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RESEARCH STUDY

Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco and San Francisco General Hospital are seeking HIV+ people to participate in a study looking at the effect of hormonal anabolic therapies (such as growth hormone or nandrolone) on fat and glucose metabolism and body fat distribution. This study includes three 5-day hospitalizations over 6 months. You may qualify if you meet these and other criteria:

HIV+ • Fat accumulation around the stomach or upper torso

You will be reimbursed \$1000 for completing the study.
Please call Natalie Patterson, M.S., R.D. at (415) 206-4373
for more information and telephone screening.

 HIVCare

Announces initiation
of 2 new studies:

WEEKLY PROCRIT for ANEMIA

A study to measure the effectiveness of a weekly injection of 40,000 units of PROCRIT in people who are taking anti-retroviral drugs and who have anemia.

HIV positive men and women between 18 and 75 years old.

Stable on anti-retroviral therapy at least 4 weeks.

No blood diseases, hypertension, seizures, iron or vitamin deficiencies.

No gastrointestinal bleeding.

No current use of ganciclovir, cidofovir, ribavirin or interferon.

Not pregnant or breast-feeding.

MERCK DOUBLE PROTEASE STUDY

Are two protease drugs better than one? This study compares 3 drugs to 4 drugs for people who are starting a protease drug.

Random assignment to either:

Crixivan 3 times a day plus d4T plus 3TC, or

Crixivan 2 times a day plus Viracept plus d4T plus 3TC.

Viral load more than 10,000. CD4 cell count more than 100.

No prior 3TC or protease inhibitor use.

For more information about these studies please call Mark Bowers at 415-353-6215. HIVCare is a non-profit, community-based clinical trial program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital.

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If you're HIV+, perhaps you should know about NUCCA...



NUCCA is a research-based, upper cervical chiropractic technique.

In one study on the effects of upper cervical adjustments on the CD4 counts of HIV+ patients, CD4 cells went up 48% over a six month period.

For more information, call Dr. Bobby Fischer at 280-7806

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Seeking treatment?

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BAY AREA REPORTER

Peldesine

A different approach to HIV treatment...

While antiretroviral drugs interfere with HIV virus,

Peldesine helps your T-cells repel the invader.

Peldesine, like hydroxyurea, does not promote viral resistance.

Consider participating in a clinical study to establish the safety of oral Peldesine.

A placebo-controlled dose-finding study in which participants take capsules of Peldesine or placebo every 8 hours for 4 weeks. Study lasts 2 months.

Main Qualifications

- HIV positive men and women older than 18
- Viral load between 2,000 and 50,000 RNA copies/mL
- CD4 cell count more than 300 cells/mm³
- Stable on antiretroviral therapy at least 4 weeks
- No ddI or hydroxyurea allowed
- No non-nucleosides (Nevirapine, Delavirdine, Efavirenz) allowed
- No severe opportunistic infections

Compensation provided.

For patient enrollment or more information about this and other studies, call Mark Bowers (415) 353-6215.

HIVCare is a non-profit, community-based Clinical trials program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital.



HPPC is looking for members again

by Cynthia Laird

The city's HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC), a 37-member body that sets priorities for the allocation of funds to support HIV prevention programs, is again seeking nominations for membership on the council. Completed application forms must be received by Friday, March 19. Appointments will be for a full two-year terms commencing August 1, with a two-month provisional period from June through July.

For the average member, appointment to the HPPC entails a commitment of approximately eight to 10 hours per month. HPPC meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 3 to 6 p.m. Additionally, all members are expected to participate in at least one committee meeting per month, usually two to three hours long. Staff at the Department of Public Health AIDS Office emphasized it's important for potential members to understand the time commitment before agreeing to be nominated.

The council is currently looking for people who have prior experience in HIV prevention. A special emphasis is placed on recruiting nominees who represent Latino/a communities, HIV-positive women, and people not associated with any HIV prevention community-based organization.

People who meet these specifications must either work or live in San Francisco and be willing to make the time commitment.

Nomination forms are available from the HIV prevention section of the AIDS Office at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by calling (415) 554-9492. ▼

Brown Act

◀ page 1

bers apparently feared outsiders would come to the retreats and possibly videotape the sessions, thereby making public what happened at the meeting. Another sticking point was that the Brown Act does not allow for proxy voting if someone is too sick to attend a meeting. The San Francisco City Attorney's office had developed an alternative to that — delegate voting — but it was dismissed as too cumbersome. Finally, HPPC members would not be allowed to take part in fax polls or conference calls about meeting evaluations or other business, nor would it be allowed to have secret votes.

The debate over whether to adhere to the Brown Act stems from a complaint filed by the Bay Area Reporter in December 1997, following two votes by HPPC members on a

matter that was not listed on the agenda. Following the complaint and discussion with the city attorney's office, the HPPC narrowly approved following the Brown Act — but has deliberated extensively about it during meetings ever since, and support for adhering to the law had apparently evaporated long before last week's vote.

All actions taken after the January 28 vote could be invalidated if the HPPC loses any challenge over whether it has to comply with the law. If a challenge is submitted, the Brown Act extends the option for the council to reconsider its decision and vote to comply with the law.

In the most extreme scenario, HPPC members could be charged with misdemeanor violations.

Passive and partial

Deputy City Attorney Paula Jesson said she's confident the city "can make a reasonable argument" that the HPPC does not have to comply with open meeting laws because of the way it was established by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). However, Deputy City Attorney Amy Ackerman cautioned the council that courts tend to "bend over backwards" to get local bodies to comply with the Brown Act. The city attorneys stuck by their opinion of last year, that the most prudent course of action would be for the HPPC to follow both open meeting laws.

Councilmembers ultimately decided not to let the threat of a lawsuit deter them from voting out the Brown Act. The vote was three people for full compliance with the Brown Act and Sunshine Ordinance, 13 for the so-called "partial compliance" alternative, two for non-compliance, and one abstention.

Under "partial compliance," the HPPC will abide by all passive requirements of the Sunshine Ordinance — something the city attorney's office said the group must

comply with — but will not comply where those conflict with the HPPC's ability to meet the CDC's goals of community planning.

Those passive requirements of the Sunshine Ordinance include:

- Making the time, place, and meeting agenda available to the public upon request;
- Allowing spectators to observe on a space-available basis;
- Allowing public comment, by presiding person's discretion;
- Allowing closed sessions to be held under any circumstance.

Also, it would release the council from providing refreshments to spectators.

HPPC co-Chair Toni Young said, "Part of team building is tearing down barriers," and added that the Brown Act might make frank discussions at future retreats more difficult. The HPPC has a retreat scheduled for February 25, but Young could not say whether it will be open to the public.

Part of the controversy centers around the meaning of "public." Michael Bogan, who voted for non-compliance, referred to CDC guidelines that established the HPPC, in which the word refers to community members of the HPPC. But the Sunshine Ordinance and Brown Act, which mandate free and easy access for the public, define the word as community members who are not part of the planning council. There is similar disagreement over the meaning of "inclusion."

Sister Mary Mae Himm voted for non-compliance, and said, "I feel real strongly no one on the council would let anything slide by. I'm not concerned about non-compliance. It's more important we go about HIV prevention and continue to be activists."

Countered Dr. Larry Meredith, the DPH co-chair, "In your roles, you can be as active; it might be useful to have the protection of the law."

Jennifer Lorwick said a lawsuit would "totally screw us up." ▼

POH seeks board members

by Cynthia Laird

Project Open Hand, one of the larger HIV/AIDS nutrition service providers in the world, is looking for new board members who can volunteer their time and skills to help guide the agency in its continuing fight against AIDS.

Executive Director Tom Nolan told the Bay Area Reporter that there's no deadline; the agency is looking for directors on an ongoing basis. "There's no time certain [to apply]."

Interested people do need to be able to commit time to helping raise funds, among other duties such as attending monthly meetings 10 times a year. People are also asked to help the agency with re-

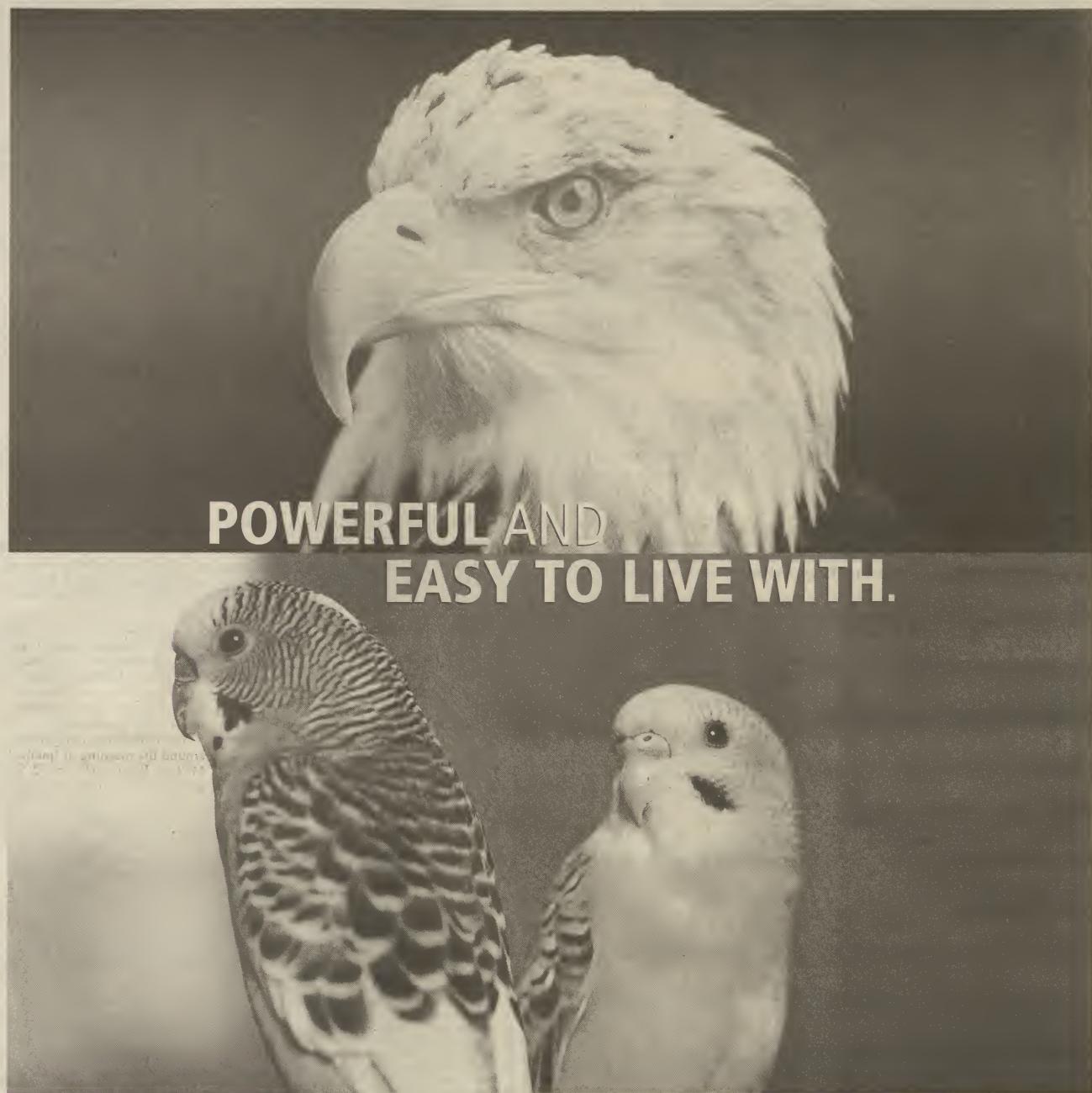
gard to their particular expertise, such as accounting or other professions. "It's an extremely well-organized board," said Nolan, adding most members typically spend about three hours a month on agency business. In addition to the monthly meetings, the board has an annual retreat, Nolan added.

Project Open Hand provides nutritious daily meals, weekly groceries, and nutrition counseling to thousands of men, women, and children who live with AIDS and symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda counties. ▼

Interested people should call Kevin Swanson at (415) 447-2421 for more information.

WHAT YOUR PROTEASE INHIBITOR CAN BE:

**POWERFUL AND
EASY TO LIVE WITH.**



VIRACEPT IS POWERFUL It's tough on HIV. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used, and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 24 weeks of triple combination therapy. (The clinical significance of changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established. The virus may still be present in other organ systems.) **VIRACEPT IS EASY TO LIVE WITH** Take it three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks. **VIRACEPT IS GENERALLY WELL TOLERATED** People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea of moderate or greater intensity in 20% of people in

clinical trials. **VIRACEPT WORKS** It's indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common medications and some HIV related

medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the

onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.agouron.com.
(Refer to the important information on the next page.)

VIRACEPT
nelfinavir mesylate



Agouron
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

VIRACEPT[®]

nelfinavir mesylate

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT[®] (VI-rä-cept) Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir[®] (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir[®] (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit[®] (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane[®] (terfenadine, for allergies)
 - Hismanal[®] (astemizole, for allergies)
 - Propulsid[®] (cisapride, for heartburn)
 - Cordarone[®] (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
 - Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute[®], Cardioquin[®], Quinidex[®], and others
 - Ergot derivatives (Cafergot[®] and others, for migraine headache)
 - Halcion[®] (triazolam)
 - Versed[®] (midazolam)
- Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.
- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane[®], Rifadin[®], Rifater[®], or Rifamate[®]. This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin[®] (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
 - Phenytoin (Dilantin[®] and others)
 - Carbamazepine (Tegretol[®] and others)
- These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")
- If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir[®] (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir[®] (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit[®] (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx[®] (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune[®] (nevirapine)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.
- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan[®] (indinavir)
- The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir[™] (ritonavir)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase[®] (saquinavir)
- The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb		
7 to < 8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2
>23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw away medicine, it is out of the reach of the child.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 11/13/97

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ads. Obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Phil Kerr

February 9, 1941 — November 16, 1998

Phil Kerr, beloved bartender of the Wooden Horse on Polk St., passed away in San Francisco on November 16, 1998 after being in a prolonged coma due to medical complications.

Born on February 9, 1941 in southern California, he resided in various locales: Palm Springs; Salt Lake City; Guerneville; and San Francisco. He worked at various occupations, including as a partner in the Jackhammer Bar.

Phil will be fondly remembered for

his genuine and understanding sincerity and great smile. He had a legion of friends. A fitting "celebration of life" for Phil was held by Don and Eric at the Wooden Horse, attended by his many friends. Services were private.

Ryan Jyun Nakagawa

August 10, 1958 — January 11, 1999

Ryan Jyun Nakagawa, Chief Ethics Officer of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority, died of complications from AIDS on January 11, 1999. He was 40, and lived in West Hollywood, California.

Nakagawa, born and raised in Hawaii, was a graduate of Iolani High School, received his undergraduate degree in history from Pomona College, and earned his law degree from the Hastings School of Law. Prior to his position at the MTA, Nakagawa served as policy advisor to then-State Controller Gray Davis. In addition to his duties at the MTA, Nakagawa was a Probate Referee for the State of California and was appointed to the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission by Supervisor Ed Edelman. A noted advocate for gay rights, Nakagawa was a member of the Los Angeles AIDS Commission, appointed by Supervisor Gloria Molina, and served as Chair for the Municipal Elections Committee in Los Angeles. In addition, Nakagawa completed several marathons as a member of the Front Runners. Nakagawa served as a member of Pomona College's Alumni Council for several years.

Nakagawa is survived by his spouse, James Litz; a sister, Nora Nakagawa of Torrance, California; a brother, Dean Nakagawa, and parents, Hisa and Joyce

Nakagawa, all of Las Vegas, Nevada. In lieu of flowers, friends are asked to make donations to Paws LA (7327 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046) and Kahoolawe Rehabilitation Fund (Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, 33 South King St. #501, Honolulu, HI 96813). A memorial service will be held on Sunday, February 14, 1999 at Pomona College.

"Aloha Ku'uipo."

Laramie J. Simpson
January 29, 1999



Laramie Jim Simpson, aged 27, of Murray, Kentucky, left this world suddenly on January 20, 1999. A graduate of Phillips Academy and Georgetown University, Laramie was fluent in Spanish, Russian, French and Chinese and loved nothing more than helping people less fortunate than himself. In San Francisco for six months in 1998, he touched on the lives of the many people he met through his job at the Muscle System on Hayes St. and at Dolores Street Community Center. The many friends he leaves behind will never forget his intelligence and sensitivity, boyish charm, and ready laugh. He is survived by his mother, Bettye Bennett, sisters, and partner, Tony Akers, all of Kentucky. A memorial service for Laramie will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 7. Please contact Stephen Cooper or Tom Kelley at 282-6209 for details.

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Former Emperor Hector Caceres dies at 65

by Mike Salinas



Hector Caceres

Senate and Assembly and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Caceres was elected the fifth Emperor of San Francisco and reigned over the Gamecock Court during 1976-77. Along with the Widow Norton Jose I, he initiated the annual pilgrimage to the Emperor Joshua Norton's gravesite in Colma. He also originated the "A.N." (After Norton) designations for himself and succeeding San Francisco Emperors. A strong supporter of then-Supervisor Harvey Milk, one of Caceres' favorite mementos was a note from the mayor's office that read, "Sorry you could not be here - but then you never showed any respect for 'elected' officials - such is the way with Royalty." It was signed and dated March 7, 1978 by Harvey Milk in his role as acting mayor for a day.

Over the years Caceres worked in San Francisco as a pharmacist. In 1996 he retired from that position with the Mission Neighborhood Health Center (MNHC) after 23 years of service, primarily to the Hispanic community. Just two years after retirement, he

was diagnosed with esophageal cancer and underwent several months of chemotherapy, radiation treatments, and a successful surgery. However, the cumulative effect of his treatment produced painful recovery complications, which his system was unable to overcome. He passed away peacefully on January 27 and is no longer suffering.

Hector will be greatly missed by his many close friends and family. He is survived by his long time lover, Gardner Pond and Edward Emond, their dog Snoopy, and by his mother, Mary Navarro Caceres of Bronx, New York. His father, Juan Caceres, predeceased Hector.

Caceres treasured his Castro Lions Club membership and he was a strong supporter of its many community service activities. In lieu of flowers, it was his request that donations be addressed to the Castro Lions Club Community Service Fund, 584 Castro Street, Box 200, San Francisco, CA 94114.

A public memorial service will be held at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street (at Market), San Francisco next Saturday, February 13, at 1 p.m. In true Hector spirit, a gathering of friends will follow the memorial service until 5 p.m. at Marlene's bar, 488 Hayes Street (at Octavia), San Francisco. ▼



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Harold Edward Blaine
Oct. 2, 1961 - Feb. 4, 1998

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Main Qualifications...

- Must have extensive, active KS lesions that are no longer responding to a standard treatment.
- Must not have pulmonary KS.
- Must be stable on any antiretroviral therapy *excluding* experimental drugs.
- Payment provided for the first 8 weeks and for lesion biopsies.

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For more information,
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HIVCare is a non-profit,
community-based
clinical trial program of
Saint Francis Memorial Hospital.

I recall the insipid bombast of the pageantry, the hypocrisy of American ideals being used to sell computers and cars. I recall alcohol and cars being pitched in the name of athletics. But that's nothing new.

When the only way to win was to snub the Russians, they were disappeared. I knew it reeked of corruption even then. So did you.

What bothers me is how so many people are acting so unsurprised by yet another enormous scandal. We're scandalized.

Olympic Honcho: "You can't go off half-cocked doing this sort of thing. You have to leave that to the IOC."

Steve Prefontaine: "What, going off half-cocked?"

You may have enjoyed either Jared Leto or Billy Crudup's portrayals in the recent duo of films about Steve Prefontaine, the Oregon distance runner who broke records like crazy. (See <http://members.aol.com/topher148/pre.html> for more info.)

Prefontaine's coach ended up creating the Nike Corporation, which by now is about as far from Pre's ideals as one could get, in some respects.

Prefontaine embodied that radical among the ranks of jocks willing to bow to the forces of control in athletics. He riled the feathers of the bigwigs at the Olympics and the International Track Union when he decided to have his own track meet, re-creating the chance to compete against another great runner. His first chance was cut short with the terrorism of the Munich, Germany Olympics, where members of the Israeli team were killed. Pre never made it to the next Olympics.

Pre was like Tom Waddell, not because he also died tragically, but that he spoke out, was often defeated, but became the hero of a cause, anyway. And it's great that films about him came out right before the IOC bribe scandal.

I'm still waiting for another TV movie about a gay athlete. I think the whole Brian Orser story would best be told as a soap opera on Telemundo. Who knew a gay guy in skating would have to come out? Just think of the costumes, the flashback scenes, the glitter!

Who knew another Canadian swimmer, Mark Tewksbury, came out, with a one-man show created just in time for the event? He takes his shirt off a lot, so I know the San Francisco theatre community will love him.

With so many gay jocks these days, you'd think the IOC would turn to us for some help about now, in a sort of make-over.

Since the days of Roman gladiators, though, we have not progressed very far. Those running the gig are flurrying like foxes in the hen house, but after a few beatings it'll be business as usual, and homos will still get short-changed, even if we compete to gold and make the whole thing festive with our in-born decorating talents.

The honorable folks at the IOC need an ethics make-over, that much is clear. Unless, faced with a billion dollar contract, you would try to sway an indecisive South African client, as did one Sydney 2000 rep, John Coates, with a \$70,000 "gift." I wish I were so gifted.

Multimillion dollar spectacles



A spoonful of sugar makes the hypocrisy go down.

aimed at dazzling the sense out of a gullible public are constructed to keep the colony busy. Jobs, they cry, Jobs.

The lies come in little missives, in discreet units, or in the case of the Japanese Olympic official who burned his financial records, "out of respect for the IOC." In San Francisco, the lies come out in stuffed ballot results for stadium deals.

I don't believe any pyres have been spotted in Amsterdam, but you can bet the trail of where all that money went is long dug over. Financial corruption in gay sports, too? Ludicrous.

The Olympic Committee, which sued Waddell out of using their term, games which were originally created by pre-Christian homos, now crumbles before us in a dungheap of bribes and scandals at the home of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Quelle surprise. And the fault is not to be pointed solely on our Mormon friends, but on the IOC itself.

Take the statement of Vincent Borg, once-head of the Ontario government's Olympic Secretariat, who said in an interview last week that an IOC member told a Toronto group member: "When are you guys in Canada going to get it? You don't get it. Atlanta has been going around for the last year with scholarships and cars and this and that kind of thing. And you people are so nice and polite and want to talk about the technical details. You just don't get it."

No, nobody does payoffs better than the U.S.

Less salacious than our government's witch trial, but foreseen nonetheless, I wonder if this is karmic revenge, perhaps, or just more corrupt ooze spilling out for the big finale when simply everything will be exposed, the sex lives of Larry Flynt's dead wife's secret hidden toilet cam, corrupt-o-vision with REAL LIVE TEENY JOCKS, Courtney Killed Oswald, my Covenant of the Lost Ark lunch box...

There are Police Olympics and Dog Olympics and Special Olympics. There are probably even Sex Olympics, but as long as it's heterosexual, it's okay with the crypto-fascist Olympic Committee and their legions of lawyers who nearly wiped out Tom Waddell financially, only to continue swooping down like vultures as he began to die of AIDS because the last thing they could stand, the tired money-grubbing farts, were Gay Olympics.

One of the last bastions of hetero-empire – the myth of the straight clean athlete – has been de-panted, thanks to one man who spoke out.

I'd like to offer a variation on the Rat Olympics, where IOC officials can sprint for the chance to narc on each other. And what of scoring for Highest Bribe?

Oh, noble Olympic flame, shall thou many more payoff sheets shalt thou torch until the games are over?

I fear the fires are still burning. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

Kate Clinton, HIFY reach out to youth

by Mark Norby

Health Initiatives For Youth (HIFY) is spotlighting the creation and publication of new health survival guides and education programs for queer youth by inviting all interested to the Civic Center Ramada Hotel at

Market and Eighth streets tonight (Thursday, February 4) from 4 to 7 p.m. The event will bring together community leaders, service organizations, parents, policy makers and, most importantly, young people of all persuasions who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning.

"These guides are the result of

youth and adults working together," says event organizer Jennifer Bing. "As youth today face the daunting task of growing up in the nineties, their strength and perseverance continues to be demonstrated in projects like this. With the wisdom of youth and the experience of adults, these guides set the stage for a

new method of health education."

Also this weekend, Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns invites young people from Marin middle and high school to a town hall meeting and "informance" (informal, informative performance) with lauded lesbian comedian Kate Clinton.

The free event will be held at the Osher Marin Jewish Community Center in San Rafael this Sunday, February 7 at 3:30 p.m.

Clinton will talk with gay and straight youth from across Marin County about the experiences of being sex-positive and of coming out during the teen years. She will share experiences from her own life about coming out in the entertainment industry, and compare and contrast the challenges gay youth face in building friendships inside and outside of school.

"Kate Clinton's outreach to gay youth through the town hall meeting is important because it gives them a chance to talk about their own experiences," says Liz

Kalmanson, youth programs coordinator at Spectrum. "Her outreach allows them to connect with the wider community, and with society as a whole."

Clinton will share segments of her one-woman New York show *Correct Me If I'm Right*, which brims with fresh political humor and takes on modern family relationships and her perspective of life as a gay American. She will also share monologues and witty commentary taken from her hit comedy show, which have been comprised and bound together in her book *Don't Get Me Started*.

Spectrum has been successful in promoting the creation of new Gay/Straight Alliances at four high schools in Marin County, which exist to promote diversity and tolerance, reduce homophobia, and make schools safer for all youth. ▼

Contact Spectrum at (415) 457-1115, ext. 209. More information on HIFY is available by calling Jennifer Bing at (415) 487-5777.

Supervisor Katz settles old lawsuit

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco Supervisor Leslie Katz has settled a malpractice lawsuit brought against her by a former client of her private law practice. Katz and her insurance carrier negotiated the settlement with former client Sheila Pauls, who charged Katz missed a crucial filing deadline in a 1995 personal injury case.

Under terms of a confidentiality agreement, the exact cost of the settlement could not be revealed, but it's believed to be six figures.

"I have no comment because it's confidential," Katz told the Bay Area Reporter Tuesday, February 2. "But it was resolved to everyone's satisfaction."

Katz placed blame for the matter on an auto accident that sidelined her from her law practice. "I was rear-ended," she said, "and I was not in the office and not double checking things."

According to allegations made in the original complaint, *Pauls v. Katz et al.*, filed in 1996, Katz failed to file Paul's lawsuit until nearly a month after the one-year statute of limitations deadline had passed. According to the complaint, Katz also did not tell her client for nearly a year she had blown the deadline, but instead misrepresented that the litigation was ongoing. The complaint also alleged that after the Superior Court tossed out Pauls's lawsuit in December 1995, Katz did not tell her.

Katz also allegedly later had Pauls sign an authorization form

to release her private and confidential medical records, and then turned them over to her malpractice insurer without asking or telling Pauls. The act violated Pauls's right to informed consent regarding the release of medical information.

Pauls is a video and film production assistant who hired Katz to represent her in a personal injury case in which she was severely injured on June 12, 1994 while working on a television commercial for Pacific Bell at a Southern California residential site. She had neck surgery related to an injury she suffered while moving a barbecue grill on the property. She also suffered bone separation and three major disc problems in the accident, according to Jim Butler, who was Pauls's attorney in 1997. ▼

Kuehl re-introduces student gay-bashing bill

by M.R. Richards, B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

When introducing AB 222 last Wednesday, January 27, Assemblymember Sheila Kuehl said, "This bill is about making certain these students have equal access to education. These young people suffer every day from violence and harassment."

"You can't concentrate, you can't learn, and you can never reach your full potential if you're always frightened and made to feel ashamed. All children deserve the dignity of an education free from discrimination, violence and harassment."

The Democratic assemblywoman from Santa Monica seeks to protect gay students in California's public schools, colleges, and

universities with the legislation. The California Education Code sets forth protections for race, creed, color, national origin, sex, and economic status, and AB 222 will add sexual orientation to those sections.

Kuehl had introduced similar legislation in the 1995-96 and 1997-98 legislative sessions but the bill failed passage in the Assembly. She has kept her promise to reintroduce the bill and this time has the added assurance, which Gray Davis made during his campaign, that the governor will sign the bill protecting gay students from discrimination if it arrives on his desk.

Recent studies indicate that 22 percent of gay and lesbian youth skip school each month because they fear for their safety on school grounds. In another study in the

Bay Area, 18 percent of the males surveyed said they had physically assaulted or threatened someone they thought was gay or lesbian. Kuehl also cites a 1998 national survey that showed a 34 percent increase in anti-gay violence in public schools and colleges, while attacks against heterosexual youth who were perceived to be gay had increased by 36 percent.

"With educational reform the top priority of the Legislature and the governor," Kuehl said, "it's important to remember you can't improve the quality of education for all students without first making it safe for students to attend school."

Over 500 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students and their supporters are expected to lobby for the bill at the Capitol on March 22, during the fourth annual Youth Lobby Day. ▼

Funny money at Castro NaNa, Starbucks

by Mark Norby

Two incidents of attempted counterfeiting have been reported by the San Francisco Patrol Special Police over the past week.

The manager of the Starbucks in the Church and Market Street Safeway shopping complex called police Monday, January 25 to report that a customer had attempted to pass a \$1 money order that

had been altered to \$100. The police arrived moments later but the suspect fled, without any merchandise. The suspect is described as a Latino male 5 feet, 8 inches tall, weighing about 160 pounds.

Two days later, on Wednesday, NaNa clothing store manager Kim Seleski recognized a man attempting to use a money order to buy \$60 worth of clothing as the subject of a crime bulletin posted in the Castro. She called the police, who arrested the suspect at

the 2276 Market Street store. The suspect, who mostly fit the description of the Starbucks suspect, was booked for burglary, forgery, and possession of fictitious instruments.

The incidents are the latest in numerous reports of counterfeiting at various merchant locations throughout the Castro area. Incidents of attempted counterfeiting should be reported by calling 911, or by alerting the patrol which is on duty daily in the Castro. ▼

I was at Fag the Friday before," Brian Gibson of Castro Valley told the Bay Area Reporter. Gibson, a regular at Fag and a man well acquainted with the San Francisco club scene, commented that GHB was openly passed from person to person on the Friday preceding the discovery of the dead man.

"Everybody on the dance floor was chuggin' down GHB," Gibson continued. "There's been many times that I've seen people pulled

out of the End Up and taken away in ambulances from too much GHB. People who are so worried about GHB overdoses don't even realize that you can buy the stuff in health stores.

"It's so easy for somebody to drink GHB without even knowing it. Just slip it into a drink and watch what happens. You can't even tell you swallowed it. Then, whoops! you're fucked up," Gibson added.

The owner of the End Up, Carl Hanken, apparently had no information on the incident. "This concerns me very much," Hanken told the B.A.R. "We have no information on the death but would like to know anything that may be available about this."

"We run a pretty tight ship around here, and our security is tight," he remarked. "The parking lot where the body was apparently discovered is a lot owned by the police department. They should have reported this to me directly." ▼

CLASSIFIEDS**JOB OFFERED****Stadtlanders Pharmacy****RESOURCE CENTER COORDINATOR**

Stadtlanders Castro Village Pharmacy, a busy retail pharmacy specializing in HIV is looking for a full time Resource Center Coordinator. Responsibilities include informing customers on specialty pharmacy services, offering information and referral to local community based organizations as needed, analyzing new patient information, planning and implementing patient educational programs, maintaining Resource Center inventory levels and providing optimal customer service.

M-F 9:30-6. Some Saturdays and Sundays. Candidates require Bachelors Degree or equivalent in healthcare, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, knowledge of HIV/AIDS and a customer focus orientation. Computer skills a plus.

Excellent benefits and competitive salary. For consideration, please respond to:

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SF L/Gay Freedom Band wishes to contact him or his estate concerning royalties for its 20th Anniversary CD. 554-0402

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**Job Announcement
Shower Project Coordinator
Part Time**

Description: Metropolitan Community Foundation (MCF) begins a homeless shower project. Showers will be made available to female clients on Saturday and male clients on Sunday.

Job Title: Project Coordinator

Reports To: Rev. Penny Nixon

Compensation: \$15.00 per hour/15 hours per week

Responsibilities: Overall responsibilities include coordination of all aspects of the Shower project.

- Supervise staff and volunteers
- Participate in hiring and firing of all staff
- Staff Community Advisory Board
- Assist with fundraising necessary to maintain project
- Network with community organizations
- Coordinate on-going donations
- Maintain and order supplies
- Establish on-going staff training
- All other duties as assigned

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of San Francisco homeless service agencies
- Possession of strong organizational skills
- Good communication skills
- Experience working with diverse adult and youth population
- Conflict resolution skills
- Computer skills preferred
- Supervisory experience

Preference will be given to San Francisco residents who have personally experienced poverty and homelessness.

Application Process:

Send resume to: Metropolitan Community Church 150 Eureka Street
San Francisco, CA 94114 Or fax to (415) 431-8813
attention Phyllis/Brian

Deadline for applications is February 4, 1999. No telephone inquiries please.

GLMA**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
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National lesbian/gay health/rights group seeks resourceful, motivated self-starter full time. Responsibilities include reception/phone, recruiting/organizing volunteers, mailings, correspondence, special projects. Good verbal, writing, interpersonal skills, experience with phones, databases, word processing, Macintosh desired. Starting salary \$25K, plus health, dental, life, pension, disability, vacation. Cover letter and resume to:

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SF Health Dept. seeks applicants for aides to recruit/interview for behavioral risk study of gay/bi men. Preferred: 6 mos experience working with gay/bi men and/or 6 mos administering surveys. Call Rob Guzman at 554-9342 for job description & application form. Deadline 2/5/99

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For gay publishing and video co. Min 5 yrs exp with heavy emphasis on cost analysis, budgeting and financial reporting. Duties also include payroll & empl. ben. comp. sal/benefits. Send resume to Publisher, BCM, 367-9th St. SF 94103. Fax: 415-552-3244

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Gay candidate for mayor needs 12 people to develop campaign strategy. Issues: homeless, litter. Call Jim at 415-826-6106

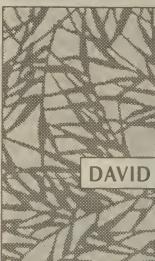
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Hooker with a heart of gold

'Changing Our Minds' tells the story of pioneering psychologist Dr. Evelyn Hooker.
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Boston beaned

Nancyboys-about-town in new film 'All the Rage.'
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**Karrnal knowledge**

Porn dog John F. Karr reviews 'Little Havana.'
page 45



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 5 • 4 February 1999



Ben Silverstone and Charlotte Brittain star in Simon Shore's debut film, *Get Real*

Queer in Park City

Report from the 1999 Sundance Film Festival

by Jenni Olson

Our informal poll question as we tramped through snowy Park City, Utah at the 1999 Sundance Film Festival was "What gaylesbian filmmaker deserves to be given \$10 million to make a movie?" The majority of respondents mentioned Cheryl Dunye (*The Watermelon Woman*), and we heartily agree. Dunye herself, who was here as a juror on this year's Dramatic Competition, considered aloud a number of folks, including the Bay Area's own avant-garde videomaker George Kuchar and Chicago-based filmmaker Yvonne Welbon, but couldn't decide who was most deserving.

Documentary Competition juror Tina DiFeliciantonio (whose doc *Girls Like Us* won the 1997 Grand Jury Prize) solved the puzzle by splitting up the money. Sundance programmer Shari Piro also arrived at that solution, rattling off a list of ten names including two short filmmakers represented in this year's fest: Trac Vu (*Among Others*) and Jennifer Todd Reeves (*Chronic*). San Francisco Queer Fest Co-Director Jennifer Morris offered a halfsies solution, with \$5 million each for Cheryl Dunye and Jennie Livingston (*Paris is Burning*). Livingston is currently in pre-production on her long-awaited first dramatic feature, *You're the Top* (which she describes as "Woody Allen's lesbian little sister goes to an S/M dungeon, with musical numbers.") She's set to start shooting in SF any day now.

The hot films that day were James Herbert's 9 a.m. screening of *Speedy Boys* (a clutch of gay distubs including Doug Watkins of Picture This and Jour de Fete's Mike Thomas and Dan Castle hovered around him afterwards, expressing interest in the film); and Simon Shore's *Get Real* (this pic will undoubtedly be one of the most

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FULL frontal Stryker

by Richard Dodds

X-rated superstar takes the stage

Jeff Stryker wouldn't change a thing about his career in porn, but he wouldn't wish it on anyone. "I was one in a million," said the performer, who knows too well about the often-devastating downsides of a business that has made him a wealthy man. Maybe even a millionaire, as one major newspaper described him.

"A millionaire? I wish. Maybe someday," he said. "Right now, I'm just making hay while the sun shines."

His 14-year run as an X-rated superstar may be some kind of record, and though he doesn't see the sun setting anytime soon, he knows it's coming. "Thank God I still look good," the no-longer-boyish Stryker said during a recent interview. "I mean, it takes 100 years off when I get in front of that camera, and the body still looks tweaked. But when magic's not there, I won't do it anymore. There are other avenues."

Right now, Stryker is excitedly strutting his stuff down one of those new avenues. He's the star and executive producer of *Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time*, a live theatrical production that opens next week at the Victoria Theatre following a successful trial run in Los Angeles. There are plans to take it across the country and to Europe.

"Doing this play, I get to have instant gratification, to see instantly what I do to an audience," he said following an afternoon auditioning local actors for the San Francisco production. "It's a blast to make them

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OUT THERE

by Roberto Friedman
and Flo Business

Notes from our so-called social life: We attended the **Jean-Yves Thibaudet** recital at Davies Hall last weekend (see **Timothy Pfaff's** review in this week's ish) and were not disappointed. Where else can you go to hear French Impressionism, opera ditties, and the immortal **Duke Ellington**, all in one evening — and a French guy willing to speak English?

From there it was on to "Deep

Freeze," the Artists Ball II at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts that featured swing dance music, **Stanlee Gatti** decor, and boozing socialites in the prescribed dress code of "black tie and ice." We went not just for the glamour, nor just for the free eats and drinks, but because the galleries of the de Young's *Impressionists in Winter: Effets de Neige* show were open for preview all night, and we wanted to bask in the blue light of the **Monet** and **Sisley** snowscapes without having to jostle through those 19th-century-lovin' daytime crowds.

Okay, the real reason we went

to the ball was to see how dapper Yerba Buena presie **Chris Culwell** looks in a tux! We didn't even know they made them in his size! Did he ask for the **Scarlett O'Hara** model?

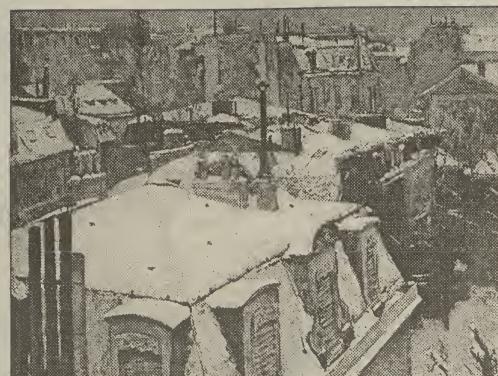
Okay, the real reason we went was to see Supe **Gavin Newsom** dance to a swing band with a man, which he did, briefly, and they both looked relieved when it was over.

Okay, the real reason we went was to congratulate *Examiner* art critic **David Bonetti** for speaking out loud and clear about the Asian Art Museum's disposal of the **Gotтарo Piazzoni** murals site-specifically installed in the old Main Library, soon to be the Asian Art. And shame on queer supers **Mark Leno** and **Leslie Katz** for supporting the Piazzoni's removal — and for supporting the compassionless crackdown on the homeless. What good is being queer if it doesn't give you insight into the importance of Art — or tolerance for the effects of poverty?

Okay, the real reason we went was for the free eats and drinks.

It's all relative

Oops! For the record, it was porn tycoon **Gino Colbert's** great aunt **Rose La Rose** who was in burlesque, not his mother, as Out There reported last week. Sorry about that, Mrs. Colbert! Can Gino still come out and play?



Gustave Caillebotte, View of rooftops (Snow), circa 1878

Beyond 'Cabaret'

The *Berlin & Beyond* film fest might have come and gone, but former Cockete and maestro extraordinaire **Scrubly Koldewyn** is cooking up

a delicious strudel for the month of March, a rowdy tribute to the Berliner Kaberett entitled *The Untamed Stage*. Out There has learned that he's snagged some übertalent for this wicked evening, including none other than **Helen Shumaker**, best known to local theatrophiles as **Mona Rodgers**. Amongst the tunes

the audience, "This is an HBO special, not some cheap club date!" Our boy **Pepi** has been doing Sandra Bernhard routines *ad nauseam* ever since her CD of the same name came out, and now here she comes again, damn it, back at the Theatre on the Square for a limited run.

Just to make the Sandra B blitzkrieg complete, we went out and bought her new book, *May*

I kiss you on the lips, Miss Sandra? (Weisbach Morrow), a collection of her musings, including much of the show. We need to share one item from the mind of the ever-amazing Ms. B, who writes:

"This 'lesbian chic' thing has got to stop. Not that I don't love every minute of this 'dyke awakening,' but people are bound to get hurt. Or should that be spelled 'hurt?' Just because a straight woman suddenly decides to start making out with another woman and telling her how in love she is does not mean that she's a lesbian. It's like those college girls who are LUGS — lesbians until graduation. Oh, sure, you can fall for their act. But, honey, even when they're eating your pussy, they're still straight. Fags are going to be reading this in total bewilderment. It's not the same with them. Trust me. Once your husband starts taking it up the ass, you can basically rest assured that he's gay. There's no such thing as FUGs — fags until graduation. Oh, wait, yes, there is. Except they call them DFBs — Drunk Fraternity Brothers."

Sandra B will appear at A Clean, Well-Lighted Place for Books, 601 Van Ness Ave., on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 1 p.m., presumably to sign her book and scope out the girls.

Coffin nails

Publist's pitch of the week, lurking in our voice jail: "I'm calling you today regarding a product called **Art Caskets**. It's literally a casket permanently laminated with a photomural so that it reflects the person's interests, passions, ethnicity, religious themes, all kinds of things — everything from one that has a golf course setting on it called 'Fairway to Heaven' to sunsets to cherubic angels to AIDS ribbons to Irish flags, the whole nine yards —"

Oops, now how did we push that delete button? ▼

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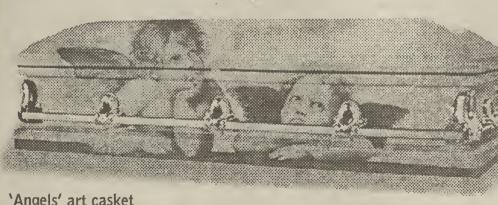
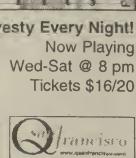
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'Angels' art casket

THEATRE

'10 Naked Men' at Theatre Rhino Dating games

by Richard Dodds

I'10 Naked Men quickly gets its full-monty obligations out of the way, serving up raw all-shapes-and-sizes cast in a self-mocking opening tableau. The occasional nudity that follows is not nearly so democratic, instead restricted to those with the obvious physical assets for such duty. Ronnie Larsen's often-clever comedy is about more than penises, but unfortunately, it peters out before the last wang has been wung.

Too long by at least 30 minutes, the Theatre Rhino offering starts out promisingly, and maintains a snappy energy through much of the first act. Set amid the go-go world of Hollywood agents, smartly evoked in John Clay James' scenic design, the short scenes and vignettes evolve like images in a kaleidoscope. We meet actors and agents and hustlers, all of whom want something they think the others have. Money, sex, and power are high



Kenn Lyon and Gabriel Macen in Theatre Rhino's '10 Naked Men'

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Photo: Steve Sargent

Prose petals 'Collected Stories'

by Richard Dodds



Jennifer Tighé in 'Collected Stories'

Collected Stories is quite literally a war of words. Words as weapons and words as shields. Words that are spoken and words on a page. Words that are public and words to be tightly held.

"Some things you don't touch," says a crusty older writer when her callow disciple asks why she has never written about her painful yet exquisite relationship with a famously troubled poet. But like a "wet paint" sign that draws curious fingers to the unprotected surface, the warning only fuels the younger writer's quest to mine material beyond her limited life experiences.

An unmistakable *All About Eve* aura hangs over the early scenes in David Margulies' recent play, now at Berkeley Rep, so the power shift that emerges between mentor and protégé is hardly startling. The strengths of the play aren't so much in the predictable plot twists, but in how these characters debate their ramifications.

Margulies has said his play was inspired by the successful lawsuit filed by English poet Sir Stephen Spender charging a 31-year-old writer with usurping details from his autobiography for a novel. *Collected Stories* doesn't much consider the legal ramifications of literary plundering, preferring to save its energies for a passionately articulate and surprisingly even-handed discussion of the morality of such activity. The play does sometimes get mired in middle-brow rhetoric about literature, which is mainly a problem because of the high-brow world in which it is set.

The play was a mild success when it opened at the Manhattan Theater Club in 1997, but a new off-Broadway production starring the legendary Uta Hagen as the older writer has given *Collected Stories* a much higher profile that dovetails nicely into Berkeley

Rep's selection of the play.

It's a handsome production that director Richard Seyd has given the Berkeley theater, from the lived-in set designed by J.B. Wilson to the two actresses who provide the marathon performances. As Ruth Steiner, a successful short-story writer who teaches writing at Columbia University, Cristine McMurdo-Wallis creates a powerful character of many facets, alternately strong and weak, fiercely independent and needy. Jennifer Tighé plays Lisa, the student who becomes Ruth's confidante, and if her transformation from infatuated acolyte to a sophisticated literary heavyweight isn't total, she holds her own stage with her forceful co-star.

There is a nagging sense of hypocrisy about the core event of the play. Margulies uses the name and unhappy circumstances of the late poet Delmore Schwartz to create the youthful relationship for Ruth that Lisa eventually uses for her novel. In this case, the playwright himself has borrowed a life for his look at literary scavengers. ▼

Collected Stories will run through March 5 at Berkeley Rep. Tickets are \$34.50-\$45. Call (510) 845-4700.

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'Hallelujah! Ron Athey: A Story of Deliverance'

Prim and improper

by Gary Morris

Modern primitives don't get quite the respect they used to. Body modifications are as common as strip malls as the millennium creaks to its conclusion. And you don't have to live in San Francisco or New York to find them. Tabloid TV is brimming with angst-ridden teens from the heartland sporting rings on noses, tongues, even penises. Tattoos have so run their course that removing them seems to be as popular lately as applying them.

Still, it's possible to make a career — if a halting one — out of a willingness not only to modify the body but to do it onstage, where the world can watch. Performance artist Ron Athey (pronounced like the first two syllables of "atheism") has achieved considerable success, and perhaps a living, creating elaborate performance art that features needles, literal crowns of thorns, razors, knives, and plenty of blood. Like many artists working in controversial niche areas, Athey uses these events partly as personal therapy, exorcising the particular demons one might expect to occupy the mind of a man raised by religious fanatics to think he was the reincarnated Baby Jesus.

Hallelujah! Ron Athey: A Story of Deliverance (1998), directed by Catherine Gund Saalfield, powerfully explores Athey's life and

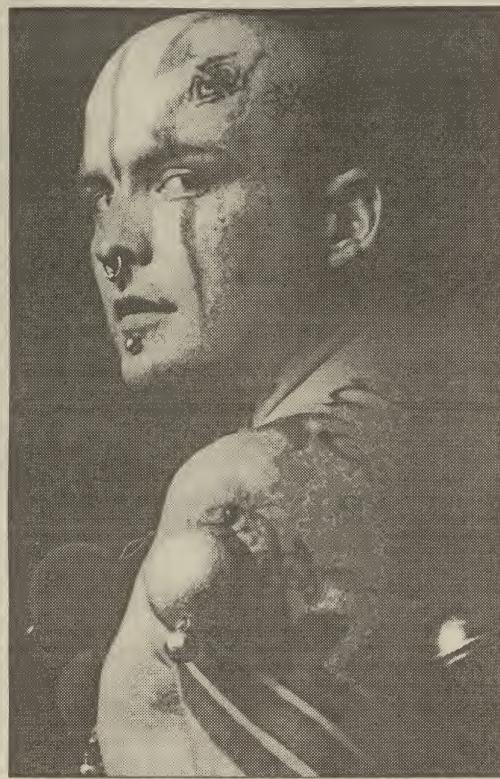
work through interviews and excerpted performances. Born in 1961, Athey spent his early years with a family he describes as "poor people using fantastic religion to elevate their self." He says he was speaking in tongues by the age of 10, groomed for a career as a fundamentalist minister. By 17, the pressures of Pentecostalism exacted a price: Athey became a heroin addict. A few years later he began to turn much of his religion's negativity about the body and, particularly, his homosexuality and HIV-positive status, to better use as a performance artist.

Needlesticks

Athey's art draws viscerally on his own life, with the intention, he says, "to overcome a bad memory, to portray it in art." In one four-minute piece, he sticks 30 hypodermics into his arm to resurrect his days as a junkie. In "Nurses' Penance," he re-creates the institutional terror of a hospital setting, with a patient brutalized by huge drag-queen nurses with sewn-together lips. In another piece he's writhing naked, on one end of a double-headed dildo. His richest source for material, though, is the church. Most of his pieces have religious names like "Martyrs and Saints" and "Deliverance," along with characters like St. Sebastian, who's martyred with a literal crown of thorns that causes blood to rain onto his face and the floor. Much of his work is

driven by a sense of martyrdom and, arguably, a self-hate instilled in him from childhood. The body in these striking tableaux is the target of endless assaults — cut, pierced, slashed — as if in tearing open the flesh he might free the secrets within.

He's motivated in his work by some of the same fanaticism he must have observed as a child. "I have trouble living on Earth," he says. "My brain wants to live in this psychic mumbo-jumbo. That's how I was raised." His vision is carried out by a faithful troupe of queer performers — "blacktress" Vaginal Davis and Divinity Fudge among others — who feed on what Athey calls his "frenzy to make it bigger, make it more." Bigger and more means pushing to some uncomfortable extremes, a strategy that's made it impossible for him to perform in the US. Europe, South America and Latin America proved much more receptive after a scandal at the Walker Art Center in which it was claimed that he was hurling HIV-tainted blood at an hysterical audience. The panic around blood and HIV issues is one of his subjects, but footage of the controversial performance shows Athey and his minions were making bloody block-prints and passing them out to audiences — hardly the assault described. Presumably anyone who attends a Ron Athey performance knows not to expect the usual.



Elie Rayne

Los Angeles performance artist Ron Athey

Hallelujah! immerses the viewer in Athey's world, but in so doing exposes a weakness. The focus here is entirely on the artist and his acolytes, who without exception love, revere, and suffer for him. While this strategy is legitimate enough in giving us a close-up view of a world far outside the mainstream, the lack of dissident or critical voices tends to margin-

alize him. The fact that Athey is an important modern artist may be lost in the din of his supporters' — and the film's — too-approving voices. ▼

Hallelujah! Ron Athey: A Story of Deliverance plays the Castro Theatre Wed.-Thurs., Feb. 10-11. Call 621-6120.

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Dr. Hooker and the fairies 'Changing Our Minds'

by Gary Morris

This fond look at the life and work of pioneering psychologist Evelyn Hooker (1907-1996) opens with a curious image. Archival footage, perhaps from the 1940s, shows a handsome, shirtless man mindlessly opening and closing lockers in what looks like a mental hospital. While he's so engaged, the narrator explains what we're seeing: "This is a boy of 19, a dreaming, sensitive individual interested particularly in the current musical idiom of bebop. He heard voices accusing him of abnormal sexual practices, and believed he was the second coming of Christ." This "boy," never named, is then seen being given a "trans-frontal lobotomy," followed by an interview in which, asked why he was operated on, he says vaguely, "It had something to do with my sexual intercourse."

This chilling scene offers in a nutshell the prevailing view of homosexuality — reinforced by the government, the medical profession, and the church — and its

"treatment" for much of the century. Artistic inclinations and words like "sensitive" have long been recognized as codes for queerness, and the answer to this "problem" was sought in incarceration in jails and asylums, where shock therapy, aversion techniques, or an icepick inserted through the eye into the brain could be administered.

Such barbarisms didn't sit well with Evelyn Hooker, a formidable tall, plain, and plainspoken psychology teacher from Colorado. Hooker's interest was piqued while teaching at UCLA in the 1940s, where she met a young gay man named Sam who became a good friend. Her gaydar wasn't particularly strong at that point; her husband's was far better. When he met Sam, whom she adored, he asked her why she hadn't mentioned his sexual orientation. Surprised, she asked him how he knew. "Well, he did everything but fly out the window."

Hooker made up for lost time, however, getting to know Sam's lover and pals and eventually presiding over a bohemian salon that

next page ►

FILM

Raging whore moans

It's 'All the Rage' in Boston

by Robert Julian

Many years ago, I discovered gay men from Boston were in a class of their own — a class that doesn't blend well with San Francisco's very "whatever" gay scene. Risking stereotype, I confess that my 25 years of experience with gay-boy Boston transplants leads me to characterize them as snotty, sartorial, self-centered, and generally antisocial. And just when I'm doing my best to become PC about Beantowners, along comes *All the Rage*, a film that supports my own stereotypes. But due to the efforts of cinematic wunderkind Roland Tec, the writer, director, producer, and composer of *All the Rage*, I must now add brain-dead to my list of Bostonian attributes. Tec gives me a tic.

John-Michael Lander plays Christopher Bedford, one of many urban gay males who roam the streets and gyms of Boston, humping unwary strangers. During the day, Christopher toils as an attorney for a large firm, where his best friend Larry (Jay Corcoran) is also an attorney. These nancyboys-about-town, and their similarly inclined friends, spend their time dishing the world at large, and each other, in a way that hasn't been seen since Mart Crowley penned the first act of *Boys in the Band* in 1968. If this sort of banter still occurs in nature, it has mercifully escaped my attention. But Roland Tec is no Mart Crowley; Tec's bitchy repartee is simply man-spirited and stale.

Hunky, chiseled Christopher, after innumerable one-nightstands, meets lumpy-but-nice Stewart (David Vincent), an un-



Jay Corcoran and John-Michael Lander in *All The Rage*

deremployed book editor. A real romance develops before Christopher does him dirt by fucking Stewart's roommate Kenny (Alan Natale) — the buff gymbot referred to as "donkey dick" by Christopher and Larry. Stewart is not amused, and Christopher has a mini breakdown in the face of his own callous behavior and Stewart's subsequent rejection.

The trite stuff

All the Rage is being promoted as "satirical and poignant" when it is neither. Satire requires wit, and poignancy necessitates caring. Tec's dialogue is trite, and his characters are so offensive, it's impossible to like any of them. Everything in this film works on the level of stereotype. The gay boys are all thirtysomething, white, and well-educated; they're all upwardly mobile and well-dressed; and they all seem primarily concerned with getting laid. When they're not at the gym, they run around in their underwear like Calvin Klein models on a sabbatical. Tec, for no dis-

cernible reason, keeps interrupting the action with a black-and-white sequence of Christopher in his briefs, talking directly into the camera, mumbling some stream-of-no-consciousness monologue as if he were filming a commercial for Obsession. And at the end of the film, the plot takes on a *Looking for Mr. Goodbar* edge that is a total non sequitur.

Given the limitations of Tec's dialogue and his stilted direction, the lackluster performance of the cast is inevitable. In many ways, this film mirrors a trend reflected in recent gay novels like *Misadventures in the 21st*, *Sex Toys of the Gods*, and *California Screaming*. Like screenwriter/director Tec, the authors of these novels have an eye for the minutiae of gay life but an inability to make anything of it. *All the Rage* hits close to home in its superficial details, but the film fails to deliver any real insight or humor. In some ways, the writing works on the level of a gay Book of Lists — all the facts and foibles are present, but there is no feeling for what they imply, where they come

Dr. Hooker

◀ previous page



Dr. Evelyn Hooker

included plenty of gay men at her Silverlake home. (A trip to the drag show at Finnichio's, shown here in rare period footage, couldn't have hurt.) Among the more famous of the "boys" who bloomed under her sympathetic eye were Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy, both seen in this documentary in color home movies from the early 1950s. Hooker's friend Sam, knowing she was fearless and had a strong feeling for social justice, asked that she consider doing a psychological study of the gay community. She obtained a grant in 1953 and three years later released a pioneering paper detailing the results. Hooker's study was the crucial early step that eventually led to decriminalizing homosexuality, legitimizing it as a subject of study, and jump-starting the gay liberation movement.

Safe house

Changing Our Minds lets Hooker speak for herself throughout, and her voice is eloquent, but surprisingly modest considering what she achieved. "To go against the prevailing viewpoint," she says, "I had no problem with that." She was unfazed by her increasing notoriety for doing what officials and some of her peers laughingly called "the fairy project," but she did protect her subjects from harassment by interviewing them at her home, hidden behind a veritable forest on

an acre of ground. She did the unthinkable in trumping three of the male "experts" in her field who insisted they could determine which of her study groups — 30 gay and 30 straight men — were gay or straight based on Rorschach, MAPS, and other tests then in vogue. Of course, Hooker was vindicated in her conclusion that queers are intrinsically no more or less pathological than straights, a victory in the 1950s that paved the way for the medical establishment to finally remove homosexuality from their list of disorders two decades later.

Director Richard Schmeichen, who also made *The Times of Harvey Milk*, uses powerful archival images of how queers were treated to remind us just how important and necessary Hooker's work was. In one unsettling bit of

footage from the '50s, a 19-year-old soldier is busted at a public park. We see the policemen's faces, but never his. But we do hear his voice with its spiraling desperation as he begs them not to "ruin my life" for something he says he doesn't know why he does. Elsewhere we see a young man strapped onto gurneys and administered violent shocks that trigger convulsions; we can only guess whether his screams quelled the pain. And for anyone who believes California was always (or ever, really) a bastion of tolerance, there's this choice headline from a 1950s newspaper: "California Infested With Sex Deviates Who Roam At Large Through City Streets." If only.

The film shows Evelyn Hooker as a funny, warm, intensely emotional woman, drawn to what would be her life's work as much by personal feeling and a social conscience as by scientific curiosity. The title of the film has a double meaning. Some gay people may have had their "minds changed" in the wrong direction by the brute force — electroshock, lobotomies, jail — inflicted by an uncomprehending society. Hooker changed much of the collective mind for the better simply by telling the truth. ▼

Frameline presents *Changing Our Minds: The Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker and Faggots Are For Burning* on Wed., Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. at Yerba Buena Screening Room, 701 Mission St. Call 978-ARTS.

from, or what we can learn from the unique collection of queer idiosyncrasies so neatly catalogued. In *All the Rage*, Tec seems to be demoralizing the milieu in which he works instead of humanizing it, and this is self-defeating. A few cues taken from the works of Terrence

McNally, David Wojnarowicz, or Paul Monette might help move Roland Tec's cinema beyond its current superficial level. ▼

All the Rage opens Friday, Feb. 5 at the Lumiere Theatre.

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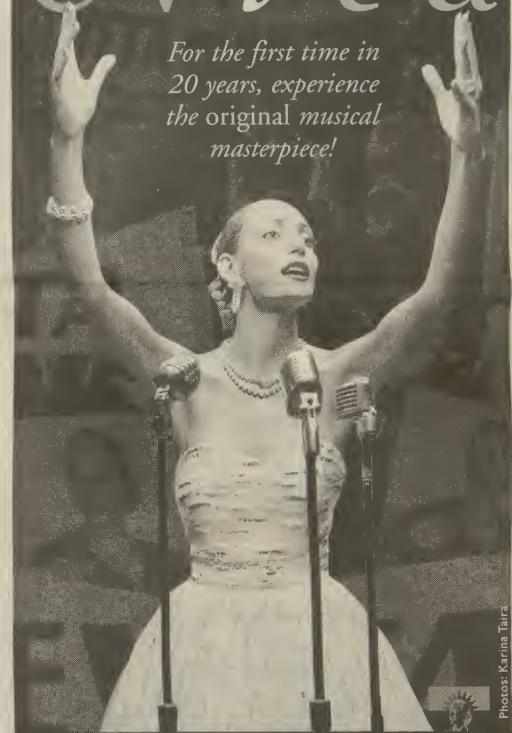


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Sadie Benning at SF Cinematheque Pixie vision

by Gary Morris

Sadie Benning has been a cause célèbre in the queer community for almost a decade. Born in 1973 to a filmmaker father and an artist mother, she began making short films at age 15 and two years later came out as a lesbian. An iconoclast even as a teen, she employed the infamous "Pixelvision" camera in most of her early work and continues to use it. For the uninitiated, Pixelvision was a "kiddie camcorder" from the late 1980s that sold for \$100. Few kids bought them, but artists and filmmakers did, seeing fresh possibilities in the low-resolution format that gave everything an enticingly vague, "pixelated" look.

If her format was obscure, her subjects weren't. The early films, part of a showing of Sadie Benning videos at San Francisco Cinematheque this week, are in the classic diaristic mode of experimental film: shot in her bedroom, starring an array of objects both culture-constructed (Barbie, natch) and self-constructed (masks). Her main subject was herself, coming to terms with a pervasive 1980s consumer culture of junk TV and mindless consumerism and finding some kind of comfort level in that culture as a budding dyke. In the early films, she was a fragmented character, floating elusively in and out of the frame. *Jollies*, made when she was 17, shows her as an increasingly bold presence in her own work. In overduo she reads some lines describing her sexual awakening: "It started in 1978 when I was in kindergarten. They were twins and I was a tomboy. I always thought of real clever things to say, like I love you." A brief visual counterpoint to these words is the famous Diane Arbus shot of twin little girls.

Benning's manipulations of her material showed an evolved artistic sensibility. In spite of her youth she was increasingly regarded as an important video artist, with frequent showings at film festivals and museums, and a Rockefeller grant at 19. During an



From Sadie Benning's *Flat Is Beautiful*

interview with *The Advocate* in 1990, she showed a strong political bent, too: "My dad said to me, 'You know, I'm really worried that all your work is just going to be on one subject.' And I was like, 'Yeah, my life.' He makes [experimental] films. What are his films about? They're about his life. It just so happens that his sexuality isn't something that people are going to label or talk about or say, 'He's the heterosexual artist.'"

Puppet oppression

One can only wonder what Benning's father made of *The Judy Spots*, her five short films starring a grimly oppressed papier-mâche creature named Judy that were shown on MTV in 1998. It's hard not to see these brief works as autobiographical; in spite of their length, they have an intensity that could only have come from a sensibility that's studied our culture and come to some disturbing conclusions. In "Judy Feels Sad," Benning takes the admonition "You shouldn't cry in public" to hilariously dark extremes, as her puppet unravels emotionally before our eyes, complete with cut-out teardrops on strings. "Judy Hates Her Job" shows the impossibility of reconciling society's demands for programmed behavior with Judy's desire to be herself, marked by her stuck-record

screams of "I'm a people person!"

Benning's integration of drawing, masks, and video with a sure sense of how the consumer world impinges on, indeed overwhelms, the inner life is brilliantly played out in *Flat Is Beautiful* (1998), her most ambitious work to date. This 56-minute featurette shot partly in Pixelvision (interiors) and partly in Super 8 (exteriors) again has the feeling of autobiography. The story traces the life of latchkey kid Taylor (Sammy Steel), a 12-year-old girl living with her mother and a gay roommate. (Watch for a playful hardcore interlude between the roommate and the mailman.) Here Benning takes a potentially fatal artistic risk in having her actors wear crudely drawn masks throughout, but this not only doesn't detract from the story but gives it enormous force as her characters' authentic feelings and desires continuously strain to break through these rigid, unfor-giving, literally constructed identities. ▼

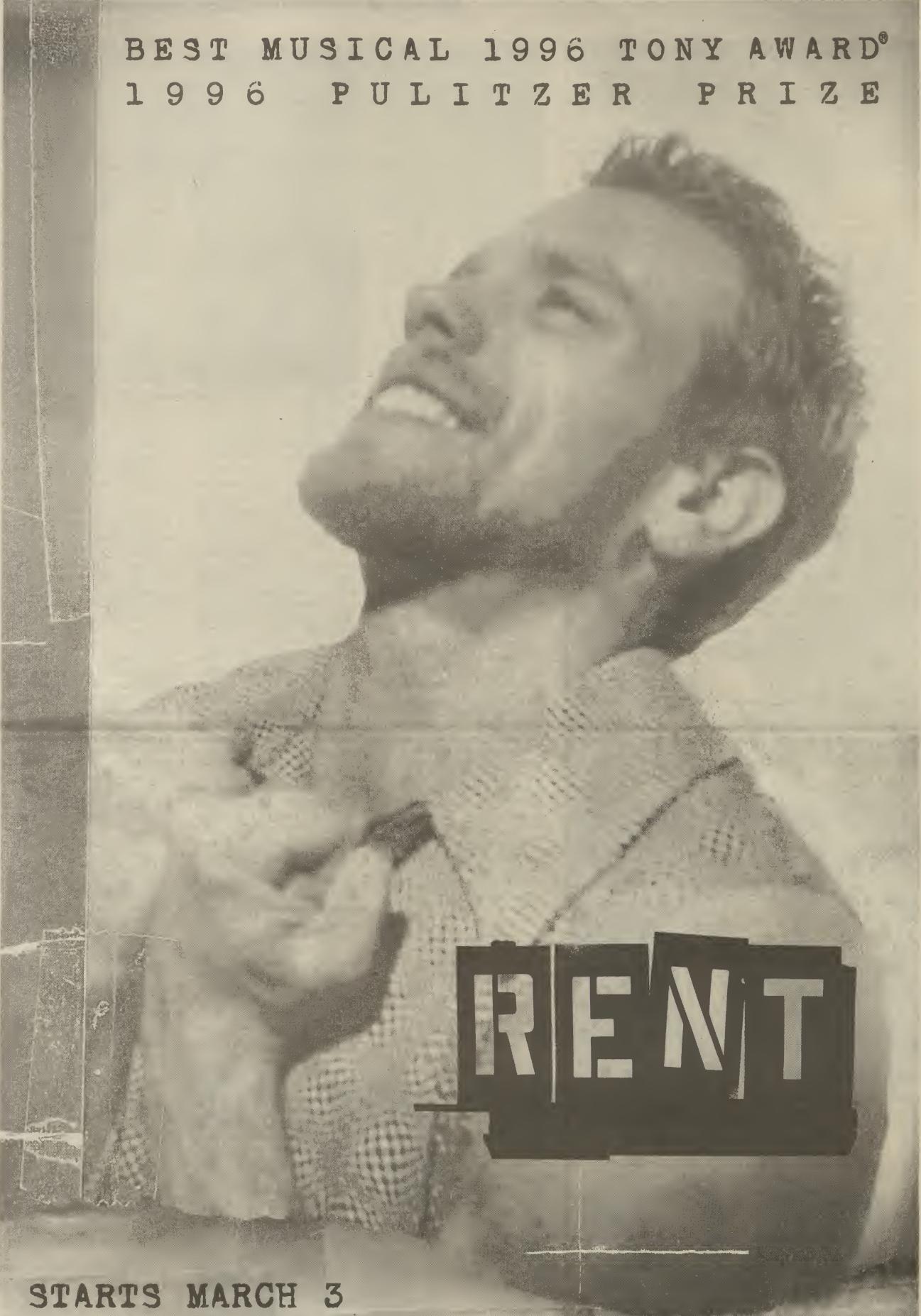
San Francisco Cinematheque presents Two Evenings with Sadie Benning: *Flat Is Beautiful* and Earlier Works, Sun.-Mon., Feb. 7-8 at 7:30 p.m. at San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut Street.

Silent no more



Alloy Orchestra (Terry Donahue, percussion and accordion; Ken Winokur, percussion and clarinet; and Roger C. Miller, synthesizer) offers live accompaniment to two classic silent films at the Castro Theatre this Friday, February 5. The West Coast premiere of director Sergei Eisenstein's rarely-shown *Strike* (pictured), a propaganda piece for the Russian Revolution, screens at 8 p.m., and Fritz Lang's sci-fi masterpiece *Metropolis* screens at 10:15 p.m. For more information, call the Castro Theatre at 621-6120. ▼

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Sundance

◀ Arts cover

popular gay releases of 1999 with its charming and tearjerking tale of a gangly teen trying to come out in a small town in England).

We ran into various celebrities, like critic Roger Ebert leaving the press office explaining how ridiculous it was that there was no parking anywhere near the festival headquarters. After renting a car, he had been told by fest organizers that it would be easier to just park on Main Street and take the festival shuttle buses everywhere. A few days later, we heard that his car had been towed from one of the theatre parking lots. Poor Roger.

Look for a March release of last year's Sundance popular favorite, *Relax, It's Just Sex* by P.J. Castellaneta (his first feature since his 1991 gay fest hit *Together Alone*). The hilarious ensemble comedy starring Mitchell Anderson, Jennifer Tilly, Lori Petty and Cyndi Williams got a look last year from all the major distros, but none of them would take it unless P.J. would agree to remove the butt-fucking scene that opens

the film (yes, butt-fucking — and it is a terrific, sexy scene). The director stuck to his guns on the US release and went with the specialty gay distributor Jour de Fete. Sadly, European TV and home video viewers will not be seeing that opening scene, since the video master has been edited for foreign sales (poor buggers).

Hit trick

Another sexy, racy gay romantic comedy with a sentimental heart, the World Premiere of Jim Fall's *trick* drew a sell-out crowd of buyers and distros (and plain-old moviegoers) to the Park City Library Saturday night. We spotted reps from October Films, New Line Cinema, Jour de Fete, Zeitgeist Films and Strand Releasing. On Tuesday, ecstatic co-producer Bob Hawk (former Film Arts Foundation Fest Director and all-around nice guy) told us the film was acquired by Fine Line Features.

Although the provocatively titled *trick* has little visible sexual content (just lots of guys with their shirts off), the entire plot is about the two main characters trying to find a place to have sex, and there is some very explicit

(and hilarious) sexual dialogue. "Have you ever gotten cum in your eye?" screams drag queen Miss Coco Peru. "It burns!"

The first feature from director Jim Fall, the film stars Christian Campbell (brother of Neve Campbell), hunky (but straight) John Paul Pitoc and Tori Spelling. Ranging from sappy (the main character writes musicals) to smutty (including a show-stopping monologue about not being a lesbian by the incomparable Spelling), *trick* is certainly not perfect, but with its sentimental heart it will be a surefire hit with gay audiences. We would have liked a bit less sap and a bit more smut.

Best festival promo item this year: Alliance Releasing's *Beefcake* ballpoint pens (you know: the kind with a hunky guy in a swimsuit, and when you turn it upside-down the suit disappears). The film itself is a docudrama from Thom Fitzgerald (*The Hanging Garden*) about the netherworld of physique photography in the 1950s (precursor to gay porn). Look for it at this year's Frameline fest.

A friend in the parking lot posed our big poll question to Roger Ebert (What gay filmmaker should be given \$10 mil?). Mr. Thumbs Up gave the honor to *High Art* director Lisa Cholodenko, who won last year's Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award here.

Let's do brunch

Sunday's annual lesbian and gay filmmaker brunch was crammed with some 150 filmmakers, press, industry execs, festival staff and volunteers. We spotted director Jamie Babbit and producer Andrea Sperling, who just finished shooting last week on Babbit's first feature, *But I'm a Cheerleader*. John Cameron Mitchell (*Hedwig and the Angry Inch*) made a brief appearance, as did producer Dolly Hall (*High Art*) with her little sister Daisy (starring in the experimental homo-espionage feature *Treasure Island*). Also in attendance (and shopping a trailer of director Kim Pierce's Brandon Teena bio, *Take It Like a Man*) was the film's producer Eva Kolodner with executive producer extraordinaire Christine Vachon. The team headed home very happy Wednesday morning after making their sale to Fox Searchlight. Look for the film in theaters later this year (starring Hilary Swank aka "The Next Karate Kid" as Brandon Teena and Chloe Sevigny as his girlfriend).

The new Paramount Classics drama *The Adventures of Sebastian Cole* was warmly received with



Jeremy Northam, Steve Zahn, and William H. Macy in *Happy, Texas*

the full cast and director present at a nearly sold-out show Monday night. The account of a self-destructive teen growing up in the early '80s in a small New York town features a too-nice performance by Clark Gregg as the step-father/mother who takes care of Sebastian (Adrian Grenier) when he runs away from his alcoholic mother. Sebastian grows to accept Henry/Henrietta as a transsexual (his initial response when Henry says he wants to be a woman is,

"You're gonna have your dick cut off?"), and she is certainly the only good authority figure in his life. But, in the tradition of William Hurt's Molina from *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, Gregg's Henry/Henrietta is sympathetic to a fault, and ultimately we never have a chance to understand who she really is.

The press screening of *Happy, Texas* was so mobbed with buyers and distrib execs that throng of turned-away journalists badgered the press office for a good 20 minutes after the show had started, and an additional screening was scheduled.

The frenzy was set off by trade reports of a bidding war over the comedy, which stars Jeremy Northam and Steve Zahn as a pair of chain-gang refugees who masquerade as gay men to direct the titular town's Little Miss Squeeze Beauty Pageant (we're picturing *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert* meets *Waiting for Guffman*). In the end, Miramax nabbed worldwide rights to the film for something above \$10 million (the highest price ever paid for a film at Sundance). After reading Emmanuel Levy's *Variety*

review suggesting that gay audiences may consider *Happy, Texas* to be a stereotyping throwback to *La Cage Aux Folles*, we're not so excited to see it.

On our last day in town we ran into screenwriter Stacey Adair and had a quick chat about his current project, *Making Uncle Tom*, which he's been working on in the Sundance Screenwriter's Lab. "The Lab has rejuvenated my passion for writing," Adair said as he described his script about two African American guys of very different backgrounds (one straight, one gay) who make a film version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. As a gay single father, Adair says it's not always easy to find the time for screenwriting, but he's headed back to Los Angeles to continue working on the script and hopes to find a producer soon to help him develop the project. This is definitely one film we're looking forward to seeing!

Sundance has a reputation for showcasing great shorts, and the ones we caught this year were terrific. If we were giving the awards — which we're not, because we forgot to do our audience ballots — the Best Short award would go to Jeff Stark for his brilliant three-minute masterpiece of comic horror, *Desserts*, starring Ewan McGregor. This exquisite tidbit caused a unified gasp of shocked laughter at its first screening. We can't tell you the punchline except to say, "Beware of stray chocolate eclairs on the beach."

Our other favorite shorts were Trac Vu's *Among Others*, a lyrical account of a young Vietnamese-American hustler who has a tender encounter with a white guy whose lover is dying of AIDS; Kelli Petersen's charming *2 Girls and a Baby* (guess what it's about); and *Chronic* by Jennifer Todd Reeves, a chilling account of a young lesbian's depression, self-mutilation, and life in a mental institution. Another experimental narrative, *Cache* by Carolyn Coal, drew an amazing cubist portrait of a four-girl bank robbery gone bad. *Sabor a Mía* (*Savour Me*) presents a magical envisioning of a woman's romance with her neighbor.

Keep an eye out for these films, coming soon to a lesbian/gay film festival near you. It looks like a good year indeed for gay boy film. There was one lesbian feature in the festival that we weren't able to see. It's called *2 Seconds* — about a girl and her bike — and we will be the first in line for tickets when it plays here, and we're sure it will. ▼



Adrian Grenier stars in Tod Williams' *The Adventures of Sebastian Cole*

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THEATRE

Jeff Stryker

◀ Arts cover

laugh, to make them sad, to make them just wonder what you're going to do next, and then to finally come out and just shock them."

Full-frontal Stryker is saved until the end, but when audiences finally get a sight of his famously prodigious tool, it is in its glad-to-see-you mode, and in LA at least, he included a naked jaunt through the audience. "They definitely walk away satisfied," he said. "Only a couple of the other actors appear nude, because I make up for it."

The performer, who says he's in his "lower to middle 30s," portrays his Jeff Stryker video character in the play, preserving the well-honed image of a sexual top who finds himself in jail for indecent exposure. "It's a comedy, and it's really funny," he said. "People have referred to the nudity as an extra bonus. They're really happy and excited throughout. In fact, there's a rape scene that just leaves every audience spellbound, and then instantly it's broken up with laughter."

Stryker, who has performed live from Bogota to Brussels, made his "legit" debut last summer as a guest star in Ronnie Larsen's *All-Male Peep Show* in New York. "I went to New York to see how I would be in a play as opposed to a personal appearance, and I thought, 'Oh, I can do better than this.'"

Stryker contacted veteran porn producer and director John Travis, and together they worked with writer Sean Michael to fashion a play that would give him a proper showcase. "It was written by Sean, but John and I basically dictated what was to be written down, and we went over it for weeks developing it until we got it where it's really funny and sexy."

During the Los Angeles run of the play, Stryker also made his debut as the star of a non-porn movie. Stryker plays the object of desire for an oddball collection of characters in German director Rosa von Praunheim's *I Love You So Much I Could Eat You*, and in the end, they cover Stryker with garnish and proceed to devour him. "A little dwarf gets my penis," Stryker said. "It's like *The Twilight Zone*."

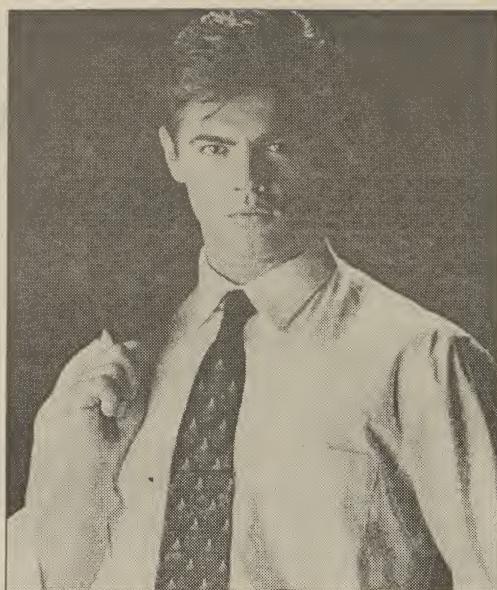
Stryker filmed during the day and performed on stage at night, always positioning himself in the lobby after the show, where he claims to have shaken the hand of every exiting audience member during the run. "It used to be like that in the old days, like the Mae West days, when the stars would meet and greet the fans. I've always been more grateful to the people than they were for me. I've never taken it for granted, because in my youth it wasn't something that I had."

Peyton place

When John Travis, after seeing some photos of the young Midwesterner, first encouraged him to come out to Los Angeles nearly 15 years ago, Stryker was more than ready to go.

Bored and frustrated by life in central Illinois, Stryker, then known as Charles Peyton, misbehaved enough to find himself in military school at 13. He ran away the following year, only then finding out his parents had divorced, and convinced his mother to let him move in with her. Back in public school, he got into numerous fights, one involving a teacher, and found himself permanently expelled.

He worked as a mechanic, on



Jeff Stryker

an oil rig, and with a jackhammer. He also danced naked in a bar at 19, which is when he first realized that his endowment could be a commercial asset.

After moving to Los Angeles, he quickly worked with Travis and Matt Sterling, another big name in the male-video world, but he got conflicting messages from them. "Matt Sterling told me, 'You might as well face it, you've got three years in this business, and then you're gone.' On the other hand, John Travis said, 'You can do anything you want,' and gave me a three-year plan to follow, and then I took over. I have my own production company, and I control exposure so Jeff Stryker can remain a valuable commodity."

For a time, Stryker and Travis were more than business associates. "I still love John Travis to death, but we don't have sex like we had before," he said. "In the beginning, we played around, yeah."

Stryker, who has made straight and bi videos in addition to his gay catalog, is famously demure about declaring his sexual preferences. "I'd rather not say so I don't offend anyone one way or the other," he said with a coy smile. "I'm a universal tool."

But didn't he tell the *Advocate* in 1989 that "my ideal sexual partner is definitely a man"? Stryker did a double take as a copy of the article was produced. "Did I? Let me see that. Oh, they must have lubed me up to get that out of me."

Stryker does like his beer, and he's been smoking cigarettes since he was 15, but he credits some of his survival to his distaste for cocaine. "Whenever I tried coke I didn't like it when I was on it, and I sure didn't like it the next day. I had these terrible thoughts, like my life was suddenly a disaster when it really wasn't. Plus it affected my dick, shrunk it up for the night, and I was freaked."

That dick, of course, had been immortalized as a best-selling dildo, even if the manufacturer did add an inch to its length. Stryker wasn't happy about that, but was considerably less happy when his royalties came up short. He sued and got a \$25,000 settlement, and now plans to market his own "life-size" rendition "so you'll be able to have the real Jeff Stryker."

The mirror has two faces

There are two Jeff Strykers. First there is Charles Peyton, who answers to the name Jeff Stryker, and then there is the fictional

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I'm flying... Berkeley Rep's 'Peter and Wendy'

by Deborah Peifer

You may think you've seen Peter Pan, but until you've seen the Mabou Mines production of *Peter and Wendy* (presented by Berkeley Repertory Theatre at the Florence Schwimley Theatre, 1920 Allston at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way), think again. I had a chance to chat with Liza Lorwin, who adapted the novel, and her enthusiasm for the story and the play are infectious.

"The novel is a meditation on the themes of the play," Lorwin said. "It's about desire, especially desire that is just out of reach. The language is gorgeous and lyrical throughout, but it's darker than the play. I wanted to adapt the piece, not in relation to the other plays that have been written about Peter Pan, but in a way that combined the lyricism of the novel with the power and immediacy of live performance. This is narrative theatre in which a single speaking actor combines with bunraku and shadow puppets to create a magical theatrical experience. In this play, we never leave the nursery."

"In a way," she continues, "the play is analogous to what happens when a child is playing, an adult is reading, or an artist creating. The puppets range from simple wooden figures to elaborately designed and realistic-looking characters, just as in a child's play, when the child might pick up an elaborate doll and a wooden spoon and see both as complete characters because of the child's complete absorption in the game." Lorwin has high praise for the original score, composed by Johnny Cunningham, with its "Celtic flavor. The music informs the whole piece,

which is both aurally and visually rich. The piece is very much in the Celtic tradition of storytelling." It sounds, I think, like a feast for eye and ear as well as for the heart. *Peter and Wendy* runs through February 21. Children nine and older are welcome, but you don't need to be a child to enjoy the play. Call (510) 845-4700.

Black history

Venue 9 celebrates Black History Month with new solo pieces and a one-act play. Actor/director Norman Gee put the whole thing together, so he was the person I wanted to speak with. Here is some of what he said:

"I was speaking with Mary Alice [Fry, Venue 9's artistic director], and she was complaining that there were just no new pieces," said Gee. "But I knew I had seen a lot of new work

that didn't get past the workshop stage, and I knew lots of people who wanted to do solo pieces. I also had a short play that was an adaptation of a short story that I really wanted to direct. I started looking for pieces that explored what it meant to be black. We hear about Martin Luther King, Jr. all the time, and that's important, but I wanted to see pieces that expanded the notion of what it means to be black. Everything doesn't have to be *Raisin in the Sun*; we have done more than merely overcome. We have personal stories, and our perspective is based on our cultural identity."

Looking for solo pieces that told their stories theatrically, Gee's first find was Carolyn King. "I saw her at a Kwanzaa event, and she was just brilliant. I guess some people are born funny. Marvin White says that making black history is like making love. Elizabeth Carter is a classical actor who explores what it means to be black in a coming-of-age story about sexuality and racial identity. *Mama's Favorite* [which Gee adapted and directed] is based on an Alice Walker short story that I've always dreamed of putting on stage. I wondered how I could stage it without losing anything. One of the characters is very quiet, but that's hard to realize in performance, so I decided to explore her inner spirit through choreography. She uses movement to reveal the inner life she

has, but only the audience sees this movement or the power it represents."

The shows run through February 23 at Venue 9, 252 Ninth Street (between Folsom and Howard). Call 626-2169 for schedules and reservations.



Kate Clinton

Briefly

Kate Clinton, world's funniest human, or so I think, appears at Osher Marin JCC on February 6 and 7 with her new show, *Correct Me If I'm Right*. Also at Osher Marin, on February 8, Tom Ammiano and Sandra Bernhard in conversation about things queer. Dish, I expect, will be in abundance. Osher Marin JCC is located at 200 North San Pedro Road, San Rafael. Call 479-2000.

If Brian Thorstenson is only half as good a playwright as he is an actor, his new play, *Winged Victory On the Golden Gate*, a frightening story of seduction and betrayal, belongs on all of our must-sees lists. The play runs February 5-7 at Teatro de la Esperanza, 1940 16th Street. Call 338-1341.

Finally

Don't miss *A Common Vision* at the Magic Theatre (Fort Mason). Anne Darragh is hilariously inventive as Dolores, Amy Resnick is hysterically funny as her best friend, and the script is smart and thoughtful and filled with character-driven laughs, the richest kind. The show runs through February 14, so hurry. Call 441-8822. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a performative nature, send them to peiferd@aol.com or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

Jeff Stryker

◀ previous page

ual entertainer "doesn't make me a bad person," he sees a different life for his son. "As far as adult movies and stuff, I really wouldn't want him in that," Stryker said. "I want to give him everything a child needs to develop well, and then he can make his own decisions. It was my life, and it was right for me, but I would just hate to see my son risk it, and dedicate his life to it, because whatever he gets into, I'm going to encourage him to do it wholeheartedly. I believe you should definitely dedicate yourself to something, to give it everything you've got, every ounce of breath."

At this point, Stryker was obviously thinking about his own efforts and accomplishments. "It's

fabulous to see that your life hasn't gone wasted," he said. "You're reaching new goals, and going beyond what you ever thought you could do. My parents didn't know I had any drive at all. They never would have thought, and I never would have thought in a million years I would be putting on my own plays, but here I am, and I just wonder what I'm going to be led to do next."

Does he take pride in the fact that at least some of his accomplishments are now based on factors other than the size of his dick? "Yeah," said Stryker. "It's quite an achievement. It's a big thing to overcome." ▼

Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time
will run at the Victoria Theatre through March 7. Tickets are \$30 and \$40. Call 392-4400.



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MUSIC

Prelude to a hit

Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet at Davies Hall

by Timothy Pfaff

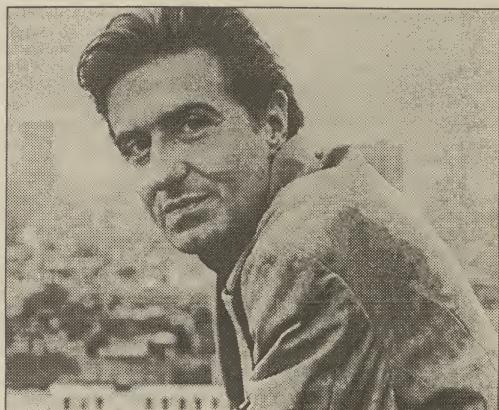
Even though Jean-Yves Thibaudet has recorded everything on his San Francisco Symphony Great Performers Series recital at Davies Hall Saturday night, the point was to be there. Fine as his recordings are, his interpretations inevitably take a step up in acuity when he makes live communication with an audience, and the natural showman in him — that inner force responsible for his trademark red socks — takes his equally trademark scrupulous musicianship to a higher and more engaging level.

At least until the two Duke Ellington encores that took the recital in yet another direction, his challenge Saturday was to bring some uncommonly subtle (if virtuosic) music about which he obviously cares deeply to an audience that had just emerged from the notably unsubtle experience of getting to the hall on time. I can't remember another occasion in my experience when a pianist led with Book II of Debussy's Preludes for Piano — twelve largely introspective, mostly soft tone poems for keyboard that admiringly the composer's late, advanced style — but Thibaudet's fierce concentration quickly invited, and won, his audience's.

The keen rhythmic snap of "La Puerta del Vino," the whiplash transition from the dappled pastoral of "Brûleries" to the keen characterization of its subject in "General Lavine — eccentric" (with its Ivesian quote of "God Save the Queen"), the sheer velocity of "Les fees sont d'exquise danseuses" and the astounding predition of spitfire hand-over-hand thirds in the étude-like "Les tierces alternees" provided plenty of the pianistic razzle-dazzle audiences buy tickets for (though at an exalted level). But the real wonders were in the more elusive, evanescent preludes, where the pianist's uncommonly light touch — which nevertheless can shade the softest dynamics with a diaphanous palette of colors — exerted its wonted magic.

In the opening "Brouillards," Thibaudet proposed a back-lit, color-refracting fog for an audience that had awakened to one that morning. "La terrasse des auditeurs du clair de lune" and "Ondine" balanced painterly representation with an air of elusive mystery. A slow cascade of exquisitely voiced chords turned "Canope" into a spellbinding episode of prolonged, rapt contemplation.

Other pianists have mined these preludes for deeper, more perfumed sonorities than Thibaudet elects, but his playing is dry the way prized wines are, rich as much in implication as in statement, in lingering effect more than first impression. The sparer sounds he achieves — not desiccated but, in the French sense, sec — in the introspective pieces set an illuminating stage for the dazzling. The flash of fireworks in the concluding "Feux d'artifice" was the more dazzling for what led up to it, and despite a moment of going off the rails, Thibaudet imbued "L'Isle joyeuse," one of Debussy's most uninhibitedly virtuosic pieces, with the sense of mounting ecstasy that doesn't quite break through in his recording.



Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet

Michael Steinberg's sly program note quoted a Rachmaninov letter in which the composer told a fellow composer-pianist that when he himself played his Variations on a Theme of Corelli, Op. 42, in public, he sometimes skipped some of the 20 variations if coughers in the audience disturbed him — and that the most he had ever played was 18. Jon Carroll's recent rant in the *Chronicle* on the excusability of coughing during concerts notwithstanding, throughout the evening explosive barks of uncommon ripeness from an audience less inclined to concentrate than the pianist was disputed the atmosphere Thibaudet was attempting to create — enough, ironically, during the Corelli Variations, to prompt the pianist to stop long enough for everyone to regain composure. His generous journey through all 20, each characterized with the pianist's usual precision and daring, yielded immense satisfactions.

The Rachmaninov arrived like a long exhalation after the pointillist intensity of the Debussy, and the move into untrammelled virtuosity for the sheer pleasure it brings continued with three Liszt opera transcriptions (or, in the case of the "Rigoletto Paraphrase," compositions reveling in recombinant opera themes). With his longish, swept-back hair and aquiline, Lyonnaise features, Thibaudet was cutting a more Lisztian figure than usual Saturday, and the playing hinted at the kind of mesmeric effects the composer is said to have worked on opera-starved audiences in his own day. (For that matter, opera-starved San Franciscans got a welcome fix from Thibaudet after jonesing through a particularly arid fall season.)

The aching beauty of Thibaudet's "O du mein holder Abendstern," a musical picture of introspective simplicity, gave way to an arching, transporting "Liebestod" from Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* that provided the sense of release the Opera's recent production could not even approximate. The tapestry of themes Liszt weaves in his brilliant paraphrase of Verdi's "Rigoletto" gave Thibaudet an ideal opportunity to display his own brilliance at clarifying individual threads in a welter of keyboard textures.

Thibaudet's uncanny knack for cracking the great jazz pianist's unique sound world in his *Conversations with Bill Evans* recording (and the live performance he gave at the San Francisco Jazz Festi-

tival) has set high expectations for his new recording project, devoted to Duke Ellington, which seems to have been released in Europe already. If the pianist's infectiously charged readings of "Jubilee Stomp" (in a Dick Hyman arrangement done especially for him) and "Prelude to a Kiss" (in an arrangement by Joel Silverman) are any indication, the new recording should be one of the high-water marks of the Ellington centennial. Don't expect charges of "It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing," because Thibaudet has nailed it again. ▼

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Consumer reports

Books from or about sex workers

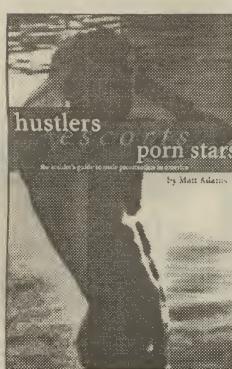
by Deborah Peifer

Hustlers, Escorts, and Porn Stars: The Insider's Guide to Male Prostitution in America by Matt Adams; Insider's Guide

Sex Work: Writings by Women in the Sex Industry edited by Frederique Delacoste and Priscilla Alexander; Cleis, \$19.95

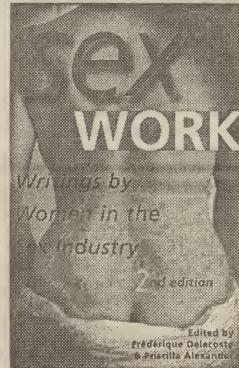
A Consumer's Guide to Male Hustlers by Joseph Itiel; Harrington Park, \$14.95

My first erotic dream occurred when I was sixteen years old, and it involved Julie Andrews running down the *Sound of Music* mountain in her postulant skirt just like in the movie, only she was topless. That dream represents my personal experience of having sex with strangers. I have never paid for or been paid for sex (I never even dated for dinner). Add to that information the fact that I am a feminist and a lesbian, and you can understand that I am an absolute wet dream of a reviewer for three books about sex workers. I have no preconceived notions of what they should, or even will, say.



Matt Adams' *Hustlers, Escorts, and Porn Stars* is a surprisingly entertaining (surprising to me, anyway) how-to book: how to hire the escort of your dreams; how to get that masseur to give a little extra attention to your special areas; how to get work in a

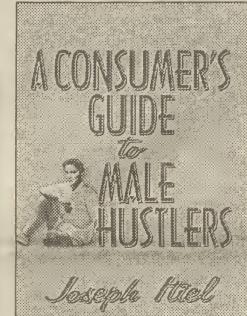
porn film; how to be a good escort or a good client. I can easily imagine the good client section being offered to prospective clients by the better agencies just to assure a better time for all. Adams sees the sex industry as having both good and bad aspects, but clearly he leans to its good overall. He explains that "there is a misperception about the sex industry that people exchange sex for money because they have no other choices. Likewise, there is the misperception that clients are sexual abusers. In many cases prostitutes choose to be in the business and are entrepreneurs. Clients oftentimes choose to use escorts to fulfill their sexual fantasies or do not have the time to invest in long-term relationships." Adams offers useful information in a readable and entertaining format. His chapters on STDs and on the legal risks for both worker and workee are especially detailed. *Hustlers* is the book of choice, I think, for first-time users who want to appear informed, as well as for those who are traveling to new cities and want to know about the local scene.



Working girls

When the first edition of *Sex Work* was published in 1987, prostitute was considered just another word for exploited. Times have changed, and sex worker has become the term of choice for women formerly called whores. The second edition reflects those changes by including a resource guide and up-

dated information on activist organizations, as well as an essay by Priscilla Alexander on the ways feminism and sex work come together, and on the root objections of prostitution by women's rights advocates. Her argument that prostitution needs to be controlled by the workers, not the pimps, is compelling. The heart of the book, though, are the stories told by the workers themselves. I wish everyone opposed to national health care could read Sunny Carter's "A Most Useful Tool," the story of her son's diagnosis with cystic fibrosis, and her realization that only by hooking could she come up with the ten thousand dollars a year she needed for his care. She insists that prostitution served her well, that she has "no regrets, no shame, no remorse," but I was appalled at her having to make such a choice. The personal stories in *Sex Work* of arrest, of shame, of power, and of pride put a human face on sex work and make a fine companion to *Hustlers*.



Joseph Itiel's *A Consumer's Guide to Male Hustlers* has the most narrow scope of the three books, but his guide offers very specific and detailed information on how and how much. He argues that an escort is often the preferred choice to a possibly unsatisfying pick-up. "The hustler provides quality sex to his client, compared to just getting off." Itiel includes personal anecdotes with his information, which makes the book more entertaining but less user-friendly. That seems to me to be a failing in a guidebook, but

next page ►

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TELEVISION

Shiny happy papal

by Victoria A. Brownworth

The big pre-kick off to February sweeps (no, not the Superbowl, though those boys in their tights and codpieces do have a certain charm) was last week's *Pope in America, the Terra Infirma Tour*. Tried-and-true plot devices played well South of the Border and in St. (of course) Louis. Despite some stilted dialogue, lavish costuming, more extras than a DeMille movie, ecumenical (oy, a rabbi) convocations, guest appearances by the Clintons, and a papally-inspired reprieve of a three-time murderer on Missouri's Death Row catapulted TV ratings to the heavens.

Surprisingly little controversy was engendered by the show despite the Pontiff's reaffirmation of his stance on abortion (no), birth control (no), women priests (no), and active homosexuality (no). Feminists and queers were either as enraptured by the program as most Catholics, or they were busy catching the last Jimmy Smits butt-shots on reruns of *NYPD Blue*.

Meanwhile, *Impeachment!*, the spin-off series from last season's *Monica and Bill Show*, hasn't been the hit its production team, the House Managers and Senate Republicans, had expected. Now in its fifth week, the show's ratings are in free-fall — lower than PBS reruns of *Hee Haw*. The steamy (or is it seamy?) plot can't redeem slow pacing, static sets, repetitive dialogue, poor casting and bad acting. Discussions with the show's co-producers, the Democrats, have stalled, and there are no plans to scrap the program at this time.

With February sweeps beginning, the House Managers and Senate Republicans hope to spur flagging interest in the show by taping new episodes with featured stars from last season's runaway hit. Expect to see guest appearances by Vernon Jordan, Sidney Blumenthal and last season's big star, Monica Lewinsky (fresh from the fat farm). The producers think these stars will appeal to a wider audience, particularly the ethnic viewers they have thus far been unable to reach. Some major plot twists are also in the works. Stay tuned, but keep a hefty supply of No-Doz and triple espressos on hand.

Recent episodes of *Impeachment!* have failed to grab viewers, but the latest pilot from the Clinton team, *State of the Union*, was a ratings smash. Glitz and fabulously acted, with an exciting line-up of cameos by Sammy Sosa, Rosa Parks, Hillary Clinton and others, it's easy to see why viewers were rapt. But *Republicans Respond*, starring House Reps Jennifer Dunn (the woman who would be Speaker) and former football great Steve Largent, fell far short of expectations. The same dreary scripting that has plagued *Impeachment!* was at work here. And despite the actors' blitzkrieging Aryan good-looks and attempts to play to the Republican militia, the rambling, static presentation simply didn't fly. The players took different tacks: Dunn reprised her Martha-Stewart-Goes-to-Washington act, while Largent did his

Hail Mary Pass. Largent relied heavily on references to God, who has pretty much restricted appearances to the papal visit and PAX TV. Frankly, we preferred watching Rev. Pat Robertson give it up to Clinton on *The 700 Club*.

Bend and spread

Speaking of folks bending and spreading, a recent viewing of *The Howard Stern Show*, which, like *Impeachment!*, is still inexplicably on the air, caused us a few frantic moments scrambling for our air-sickness bag. Stern featured "Fart Boy," a pre-pubescent who farts on cue. Now lest this seem a mere reprise of *South Park* or

the old *Beavis and Butt-head*, let us elaborate. "Fart Boy" lay on the studio floor, butt encased in black satin shorts with legs raised and cheeks spread (we are not making this up) while Stern's 40-something balding white guy producer held a microphone to his anus. The emissions were recorded on a farrometer at the rate of one per second for over two minutes. (This display may have gone on longer, but as we have a sensitive nose, we changed stations. Our beloved noted matter-of-factly that the emissions were too uniform in sound and repetition to be realistic and suggested this was Stern's version of wrestling.)

Our ickometer registered seis-

mically. We expect such displays at our local scat club with someone of age, but were disturbed by the pedophilia of Stern and his creepy hetero team. (If Henry Hyde et al are so concerned about America's kids, why don't they protest this show?) We scrubbed up just in time to see Stern's next event: female models in diapers peeing on camera. Is it any wonder Stern's ratings remain in the toilet?

Meanwhile, a slew of newsmagazines have debuted: ABC, still determined to keep septuagenarians front-and-center on prime time, has expanded 20/20 (which, given the reporting and reporters, might better be titled *Cataract*) to three nights; CBS has expanded 60 Minutes to a second night with the seductive title *60 Minutes II*; and *Dateline* is now every third program on NBC. The fact that these shows recycle the same stories fazes no network execs. As one NBC exec noted, "When the public is tired of more news, I'm sure they'll tell us."

Eye-opener

Meanwhile, ABC has stanchied the bleeding on *Good Morning America* with the tag team of Charlie Gibson and Diane Sawyer. Sawyer remains one of TV's most alluring journalists; even at dawn she looks smashing, waxes witty, sounds smart, and has infused the morning market with some controversial subjects. Gibson seems to be the only ABC reporter willing to dis the Republicans on-air — a welcome relief

from *The Quisling Hour*.

ABC's other morning prodigy, *The View*, still has its Latin terms confused: It's *carpe diem*, ladies, not *te dium*. Former MTV muffin and resident airhead Debbie Matenopoulos got the ax in an effort to improve ratings. Unfortunately, since ABC kept the remaining puff pastries (or in Star Jones' case, baked Alaska), the show still reeks. But Matenopoulos garnered a good sport award for appearing as herself in a *Saturday Night Live* skit in which she delivered a tour-de-force kick-in-the-ass rejoinder to ABC. *SNL* has spoofed *The View* regularly, and been merciless to Matenopoulos. We can only hope her fabulous "après moi, le délugé" soliloquy proves true.

Finally, queers invaded PBS world in an episode (soon to be repeated) of the Masterpiece Theatre series *Bramwell*. The series depicts the life of a young doctor, Eleanor Bramwell (played with sincerity by Jemma Redgrave), in Victorian England. This recent episode explored man-boy love, male prostitution, cross-dressing, Victorian sexual hypocrisy and anti-homosexual violence. Intriguing, if bittersweet, with excellent performances all-round. Well worth catching on repeat, as is the series.

And stay tuned for several sweeps events: the last days of George Clooney on *ER*, alleged queer touching on *Will & Grace*, Stephen King's *Storm of the Century*, *The 60s* and a two-part blockbuster *X-Files*. ▼



10 Naked Men

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into the mouth of an ad writer (Cory A. McDaniel) who's working on an ice cream commercial featuring Robert. Another hustler (Sebastian Trejo) wants to be an actor, gives a photographer (Gino Colbert) a blowjob to land some glossies, does a spanking scene with the ice cream commercial's director (Octavio Saez De Ibarra), and moves in with Robert's agent (Scott Campbell). Meanwhile, Robert has found his own hustler (Max Stone) whom he pays to rape him. Unless I missed something, Josh Bernardini, as another agent, is the only character without a steamy sex-life.

While Larsen manages to juggle these balls nimbly for a while, the second act bogs down as the crisp pacing of the first act gives way to longer scenes that trade a wry tone for soap opera. The play, which hasn't been shy about primal sexual needs, goes soft with a contrived conversion for Robert.

As the overweight and comically flustered Robert, Larsen has

created a role around his look, manner, and talents. It's a delightful showcase, certainly the most astute performance in the show, but even it begins to grow a little stale as the play soldiers on. The other performers are mostly an agreeable bunch who know the job is to keep it moving.

Larsen has obviously come a long way since *Scenes From My Love Life* had its premiere in Theatre Rhino's Studio in 1993, launching an in-your-face gay playwriting career that has taken him to New York with several plays, including the long-running *Making Porn*. Returning to San Francisco has apparently been something of an ordeal for Larsen, who disinherited the critics a couple of hours before the January 16 opening of *10 Naked Men* because he was dissatisfied with one of the actors. As a perfectionist, his next target will surely be the second half of the play. ▶

10 Naked Men with run at Theatre Rhino through Feb. 14. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 861-5079.

Sex work books

◀ previous page

you may enjoy the stories.

Given my exceptionally limited experience, I'm not sure how useful it is to hear my opinion about these books, but I will say that I am glad to have read them because I learned a great deal and have, I hope, a better understanding of sex workers and their

clients. For young men (young in knowledge if not in years), Adams' book would be the most useful for getting into the life or making use of those who are working. I would suggest *Sex Work* for those who want to look behind the mask and understand the people involved. Itiel's book might be best for those who feel guilty about wanting to hire a hustler and are looking for validation. ▶

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon



Cougar Cash and slave

Feast

These are orgiastic times we're living in. I'm thinking of the lengths to which we San Franciscans eagerly go these days to indulge our bottomless urges for titillation.

We've become such ardent partiers, no single source of entertainment satisfies our carnal-cum-spiritual needs. It's as though the city's populace had decided to cast itself in an ongoing Bacchanalian opera, as if we're all yearning to be characters in a Fellini film or some phantasmagoric fantasy such as Ken Russell's *Salome's Last Dance* or Peter Greenaway's *The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover*.

How else to explain the latest sex-drenched extravaganza being offered by party-impresario **Terrance Alan:** "Feast: The Garden of Earthly Delights," coming to the queen (girl and boy) masses on Friday, February 5.

Billed as "a pansexual queer cabaret," taking over and totally transforming the vast, multi-leveled, labyrinthian Power Exchange sex club, Feast is Alan's latest and most ambitious carnival of guilty pleasures.

The menu begins with a "naked food buffet" of finger-food laid out on a saran-wrapped couple (boy and girl) lying on a pool table. Later, those who descend into the basement can witness—or take part in—the bondage and, um, "other" sex demonstrations staged by Master **Cougar Cash** (I do hope those doing the demonstrating will have clipped their fingernails).

There'll be a "Tranny Cabaret" hosted by **Mad Magda**, featuring **Sister Roma, Demand Man, Kennedy, Fudgie Frottage** and others; comedy on the main stage, starring HBO Comedy Central star **John McGivern**; and a "slave auction," with **Sister Kitty Catalyst** and **Sister Reyna Terror** gaveling away ten sexy boys and girls for an hour's "use" on premises.

At 2 a.m., when everyone is feeling tribal, master flautist and sexy-boy **Robert Rodriguez** and his band of very merry musicians will set in motion an erotic dance of fire spinners in the Enchanted Forest, surrounded by a mysterious maze of gloryholes.

For Alan, parties are an antidote to the despair caused by AIDS. And why shouldn't he and a few hundred friends party to excess? It's safer than the orgy of idiocy going on in the nation's capitol. ▼

Feast: The Garden of Earthly Delights, takes place February 5 from 9pm to 6am at the Power Exchange, 74 Otis St. Admission is \$10 before 10pm, \$20 thereafter.

Eri

ATA

"**Dirtybird**," a queercore film/video festival. Includes a documentary on the summer of '96 festival in San Francisco featuring Tribe 8, Sleater-Kinney, the Third Sex, Sta-Prest, and other bands. Plus various genital-access and low-end videos. Boychicks in action. Gender-bending performance cable-access show. Etc. Curated by Dave Jones. \$5. 8pm. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

Jon Sims Center

Members of the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance's cultural collective preview their work-in-progress as part of AIR-space, the Sims Center's artists-in-residence program. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. 554-0402.

Dance Mission Theater

ABD Productions presents "Yucatan Blue and Other Dances" by Anne Bluthenthal and dancers, with commissioned music by Marc Ream. In memory of physician and activist Marcy Lee Olmsted, who recently died after a seven-year battle with breast cancer. Reception follows, co-hosted by ABD and the Breast Cancer Fund. \$15 suggested donation (\$13 advance). 8pm. Also on 2/6 & 7, 24th St. & Mission. Tix: Modern Times Bookstore or call 522-8793.

Cafe Commons

"SF Games," a regular weekly games group (now in its fourth year), invites all to play Spades, Hearts, Acquire®, Scrabble®, Dominos, Spades, Air Baron®, and Cribbage. Bring your favorite games, too. Free. Cafe Commons, 3161 Mission St. (near Cesar Chavez). Info: call David at 679-3678.

Venue 9

"Real Virtuality," a multimedia collaboration between Footloose and video artist Peter Freund. Freund has created work where live music

performers interact with on-screen actors and video environments. A synergy of concert and drama. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Folsom & Howard). 289-

Luna Sea
Afia Walking Tree, founder of Spirit Drumz, and guest-artist Brindle (formerly of Pele Juju) present "Soul Affirmations," where everyone is part of a ritual involving percussion, chants, dancing, and more. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Thru 2/14. Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, 2940 16th St., Suite 216-C. 863-2989.

Castro Hibachi

Bay Area Career Women (BACW) host "TGIF" (Thank God I'm Female) in which singles mingle. Hors d'oeuvres and no-host wine/soda bar. BACW is a non-profit promoting lesbian pride, leadership, and visibility. \$5 members, \$8 non-members. 6-8pm. Castro Hibachi (upstairs), 4063 18th St. (btwn. Castro & Hartford). 495-3727.

SF Camerawork

Opening reception: "Body/Language," which brings together the work of artists who use language to site the body in their imagery. Free. 5:30-8pm. Exhibit runs thru 3/20. 115 Natoma St. (btwn. Mission & Howard, New Montgomery & 2nd). 746-1001.

Yerba Buena Center

Lamplighters Music Theatre presents George and Ira Gershwin's *Of Thee I Sing*, the hit musical of 1931. \$20-\$30. 8pm. Thru 2/7. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd). Tix: 978-2787.

Hank Hyena
as an enlightened fruit fly
at New Langton Arts. See Thursday.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Continuing run: *The Lisbon Travesti*, a play by Terrence McNally, directed by Arturo Catricala.

The plot follows the troubled course of a gay relationship, using an obsession with grand opera as a metaphor underscoring larger-than-life passions. Thru 3/6. Info: 861-8972.

Theatre Rhino

Continuing run: *10 Naked Men*, a play by Ronnie Larson (author of *Making Porn*), about capitalism and the Hollywood hustle. \$15-\$25. 8pm. Thru 2/14 (showtimes vary). 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 861-5079.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Continuing run: *The Kinsey Sicks "dragapella"* beauty shop quartet perform their "Greats Tits," giving a new twist to their unmistakable harmonies, unforgettable comedy, and unspeakable fashion sense. \$20. 8pm. Thru 2/14. 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Musician Zoë Lewis and the Dodge Brothers perform at the Chat House, See Saturday.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

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Theatre on the Square
Brassy, irreverent pop-culture icon Sandra Bernhard stages her one-woman show, "I'm Still Here . . . Damn It!" \$45 & \$50 (only \$35 on Tuesday nights). Thru 2/28. 8pm (8:30pm Fri. & Sat.). 459 Post St. Tix: 433-9500 or BASS outlets.

Intersection for the Arts

Campo Santo, Word for Word, and Intersection for the Arts present stories from Denis Johnson's collection, *Jesus' Son: Emergency & Dundun*, directed by Sean San José. About a man whose chemical dependencies have led him to a life of petty crime, cruelty, betrayal, and various kinds of loss. \$9-\$14 sliding (Thursdays are "pay what you can" days). 8pm. Thru 2/28. 446 Valencia St. (near 16th). Tix: 626-3311.

Sat

SF Design Center Galleria

Transgendered San Francisco (formerly ETVC), presents the Fifteenth Annual Cotillion, "South Pacific," a tropical island paradise of glamour,

glitz, and gaga rivaled only by the city's Closet Ball and Imperial Court galas.

The pageant to select Miss TGSF will feature sportswear, talent, and evening gowns by the contestants, fabulous guest artists, and a spectacular finale. Trauma Flintstone presides as Mistress of Ceremonies. Directed by Sharon Hurtley-Durand. A Lesliu Production. Admission includes a light "juuu" served 6-7:45pm. Ceremonies begin at 8pm. \$30 advance; \$40 door. 101 Henry Adams St. Tix at Marlena's, Kimo's, Romantasy, Piedmont Boutique, Foxy Lady, and Rosalie's New Looks; phone (510) 527-5398.

Noe Valley Ministry

Acclaimed Oakland-based women's vocal ensemble KITKA performs songs from Bulgaria, Georgia, Hungary, Macedonia, Russia, and the Ukraine. The women, masters of Balkan and Slavic vocal styling, are known for their stunning dissonances, asymmetric rhythms, exotic ornamentation, and lush harmonies. \$14 advance; \$16 door (\$12 seniors, students, disabled). 8:30pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

Teodosia Gallery

Positive Women, Positive Art, a group of HIV-positive Bay Area women artists, celebrate International Women's Day with their 4th art show and sale. Free (donations welcome). Also on 2/27, 4304 Cortland Ave (at Wool St.), S.F. Info: call Pali Boucher at 642-4786.

SF Zoo

10th annual Valentine's Day Sex Tour (1st of two weekends): guests will enjoy descriptive narratives about the sex lives of different animal species, from giant millipedes to giraffes. Offers scientific insight on animal reproduction. \$35. Private Safari Train tours start at 9am & 3pm today and tomorrow (2/7). Must be 18 or older. Reservations required: 753-7156.

The Chat House

Multi-talented musician Zoë Lewis and the Dodge Brothers perform. Lewis is a master of guitar twanging, ivory tickling, penny whistling, harmonica bending, accordion squeezing, ukulele crooning, and kazoo honking. \$5. 7pm. 139 8th St. (at Minna). 255-8783.

CenterStage, San Rafael

Comic impresario Kate Clinton previews her one-woman show, "Correct Me If I'm Right." Featuring fresh political material as well as savvy send-ups of modern family relationships and illuminating perspectives on life as a gay American. \$20. 8pm (also 5pm on 2/7). Hoyt Theater, Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro Rd., San Rafael. Tix: 479-2000 or BASS.

Chinese Cultural Center

Chinese New Year walk: a comprehensive introduction to the history of this holiday, fol-

lowed by a guided stroll through Chinatown. \$20 adults; \$8 children under 12. Each Saturday thru 2/27. Begins 2pm at the Chinese Cultural Center, 750 Kearny St., Holiday Inn, 3rd floor. Reservations: 986-1822 (Tues.-Sat., 9am-5pm).

550 Barneveld

Blue Room Americas presents a live performance by French electronica artists Total Eclipse plus many DJs in an all-night dance party for everyone. Featuring three "depressurized chambers" with different atmospheres and psychedelic visuals. \$15 @ door. 21+ w/ID. 10pm-7am. Call for directions/DJ lineup: 1-888-682-7666.

Sun

Bethany United Methodist

Mardi Gras Sunday. The Dixieland Dykes will play authentic New Orleans jazz for this raucous service. Bring beads and masks and join the parade. A cajun meal follows the 11am service. Feast before starting the Lenten fast. All welcome. Free. Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez (at Clipper). Info: 647-8393.

MCC

Rev. Penny Nixon facilitates part two of a six-week series on Queer Family Values. Tonight: "Family Liberation: Our Gifts to the World," with Felicia Park Rogers, Executive Director of COLLAGE. Free. 7pm. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. (btwn. 18th & 19th). 865-2743.

A Different Light

Aeshaan Ababio Clotey and Kokomon Clotey read from *Beyond Fear: 12 Spiritual Keys to Racial Healing*. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

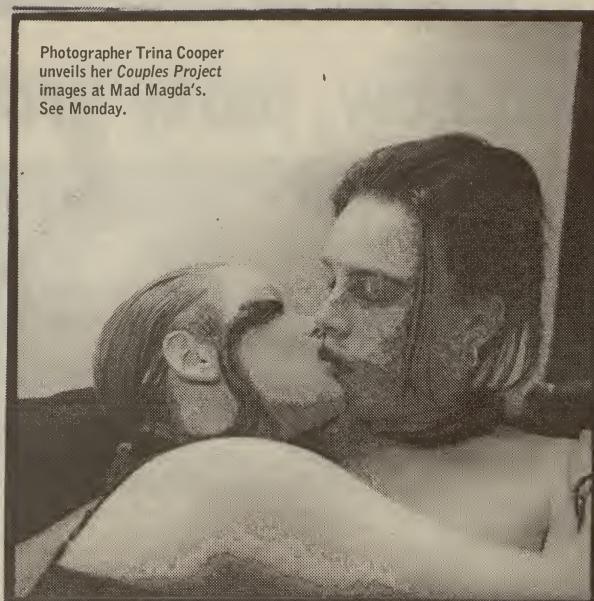
Community Music Center

Emerging jazz violinist Jenny Scheinman takes a fresh look at landmark 1930s tunes with her quartet interpreting the music of gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt, whose collaborations with Stephane Grappelli in the 1930s brought violin to the forefront of jazz. Free. 4pm. 544 Capp St. (btwn. 20th & 21st). 647-6015.

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Las Trampas Wilderness

Photographer Trina Cooper unveils her *Couples Project* images at Mad Magda's. See Monday.



hike, encompassing green hills, curious Devil's Hole, and moaning Wind Caves. It's a moderate 7-mile hike with a 2,100-foot elevation gain. Meet 8:45am under the big Safeway sign at Market & Dolores St. Car pool cost is \$20 to be shared among passengers. Rain does not cancel. Club info: 487-6410.

Mon

CenterStage, San Rafael

"Lives in the Theatre" series: Actress Sandra Bernhard onstage with Tom Ammiano, talking about her new book, *May I Kiss You On The Lips, Miss Sandra?* and her hit one-woman show, *I'm Still Here . . . Damn It!* (now at San Francisco's Theater on the Square). Ammiano will query the volatile Bernhard on everything from "lesbian chic" to the cult of celebrity to sexual politics. \$18. 8pm. Hoyt Theater, Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro Rd., San Rafael. Tix: (415) 479-2000 or at BASS.

SF Cinematheque

Video artist Sadie Benning will be on hand for the showing of her work, including *German Song*, a Super-8 music video for the rock band

Come, *Judy Spots*, an experimental animation, and *Flat Is Beautiful*. The latter explores the world of an androgynous 11-year-old girl living with her single mom and their gay roommate in a culture obsessed with gender differences. \$7 (\$3.50 students/seniors). 7:30pm. San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. 558-8129.

Mad Magda's

Opening reception: "The Couples Project," featuring photography by Trina Cooper. The work, a culmination of her eight-year project, looks at the dynamics of couples sharing life and love. Free. 7-9pm. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes St. 864-7654.

Tue

Live Oak School

Foggy City Dancers, a lesbian and gay organization, offers introductory Square Dance lessons in the school's basement. No partner needed. Just come and join the fun. Free. 7:30-9:30pm. 117 Diamond St. (at 18th). 452-8112.

Wed

A Traveling Jewish Theatre

"Worlds Within Words," stories of fathers from great Jewish writers, read by ATJT ensemble members and other Bay Area actors. Includes readings of Bruno Schulz's "Fathers' Last Escape," Grace Paley's "Anxiety," and Yehuda Amichai's "The Times My Father Died." \$5. 8pm. 470 Florida St. (at 17th & Mariposa). 399-1809.

Thu

Victoria Theatre

America's most famous gay porn idol and several sexy studs perform live on stage in "Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time," a "dark and sexy prison comedy that takes the audience into the depth of prison life to witness the animalistic behavior of men behind bars." Contains nudity and sexual situations. \$30-\$40. 8pm (8 & 10pm Fri. & Sat.; 7 & 9pm Sun.). Thru 3/7. 2961 16th St. (near Mis-

sion). Tix at City Box Office (392-4400) or at the theatre 90 minutes prior to first performance each night. Info: 863-7576.

New Langton Arts

Test Tube, a performance series, presents "Up Yours," featuring Hank Hyena, Omolara, and Sister Spit goddess Michelle Teela in a highly volatile chemistry of spoken word, sight, and sound. Hyena chronicles his nervous breakdown in Scandinavia and offers "Blood of the Buddha," the diary of an enlightened fruit fly. Omolara mixes poetry and rap. Tea reads from several true-tale works in progress. \$8 (\$6 students/seniors). 8pm. 1246 Folsom St. (btwn. 8th & 9th). Reservations: 626-5416.

Crucible Steel Gallery

Opening reception: "American American," new work by Indigo Som and Donna Keiko Ozawa, examining "American" identity from the perspective of Asian American women. Som employs gingham fabric in her work, while Ozawa creates hand-crinkled sculptures. Free. 6-9pm. 2050 Bryant St. 648-7562.

Mills College Theatre, Oakland

"The Vagina Monologues," part of V-Day 1999, a campaign to end sexual violence against women and to proclaim Valentine's Day as the day to celebrate women and demand the end of abuse. "The Vagina Monologues" brazenly explores questions often pondered, but seldom asked, such as: "Do women like their vaginas?" and "What do women call their vaginas?" \$8 (\$5 students/seniors). 8pm (2pm on Valentine's Day). Thru 2/14. Lissner Hall, Mills College Theatre, Oakland. Info: (510) 430-3308.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
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Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

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February 1 at The Leather Zone,
2352 Market St. and from Richard
Meyerson at The Bear Store, 367
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12 in the BOSF Store at the Ramada Plaza Civic Center, 1231 Market St.

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Rest now, party pronto

by Mister Marcus

February is a hopping time for leather folk. Apart from various goings-on around the country, here in San Francisco, several major events will occupy the leather community. Get your leather gear ready now, because many of those events happen next week.

Consider this coming weekend. Bears from around the world will converge here for International Bear Rendezvous '99 and the International Mr. Bear contest. Meanwhile, on Saturday night, the Inter-Club Fund hosts the annual Motorcycle Awards. And the Emperor and Empress campaigns are in full swing, adding more dates to your activity calendar(s). Several parties will be held in conjunction with all these events, so you should rest up now if you plan to take it all in.

Also this month, four male leather-titles will be awarded, beginning at Daddy's (February 11) and continuing at The Powerhouse (February 12), The Edge (February 24), and Mr. Polk St. Leather at the Wooden Horse (February 25). The winners will compete for Mr. San Francisco Leather on March 12. There will also be some independent contestants and some sponsored by various leather-oriented businesses. The roster for Mr. San Francisco Leather '99 will be bigger than usual.

Now that the Men of Discipline/San Francisco are established, they will begin having their uniform-night get-togethers at the Loading Dock. In progress are the bare-chest contests at the Powerhouse and the Big Basket contests at The Edge. Since Valentine's Day is this month, look for the Sun Dance Saloon "Your



1999 Defenders MC officers are (L to R) Secretary and Interim Treasurer Jim Remer, Leader Carlos Mosca, and Vice Leader Marc Fuentes.

Mister Marcus

Cowboy Sweetheart" Valentine's Ball at 174 King Street on February 14.

In Chicago, they're picking Mr. Cell Block Leather at that bar on Saturday night, February 12, and in Baltimore they're picking Mr. Maryland Drummer and Drummer Boy at the Baltimore Eagle on February 20.

The Mid-Atlantic Leather Boy will be chosen at the Bike Stop in Philadelphia on Saturday, February 27.

That same weekend, our 15 Association celebrates an anniversary with a weekend-long list of events. The new emperor and empress of San Francisco will be crowned, and everyone can relax on the 28th. Get plenty of rest and get geared up for the month's festivities. It should be fun!

IMSL update

Amy Marie Meek recently issued a press release announcing the details for IMSL 1999: This year the event takes place July 16-18 in Las Vegas at the World Trade Center Hotel (1-800-390-1777)

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, February 4

Mr. March 2000 on the Millennium Bare Chest Calendar will be chosen by judges Robert Davolt, Keith Truitt and Brock Koliwas at 2130 hours at the Powerhouse. Win \$100, fame, Blow Buddies passes, Powerhouse tank-top, and a 1999 Calendar.

Big Basket contest at The Edge. Win cash, fame, adoration. See the Old Bag, hear Danny Williams emcee. Enjoy.

Free HIV testing upstairs @ 933 Harrison from 2030-2230. Call 864-HEAD.

Friday, February 5

Boot Night @ Loading Dock sponsored by Stompers, around 2100, with free boot shines by "Driller." Wear your boots!

Saturday, February 6

Leather Elegance @ Driftwood Inn (Hayward), at 2100. Tix are \$20 (call 510-581-3303), including a masquerade ball (masks furnished if you don't have one). Benefits the Infectious Disease Ward at the Children's Hospital.

Cal Eagles MC celebrate their 15th Anniversary (time flies!) at Jelly's Dance Bar (Pier 50) by invite or club overlay. Congratulations and best wishes for future success!

In Los Angeles, it's the Mr. L.A. Leather Contest, around 2200, at the Faultline Bar, 4216 Melrose Ave. at Vermont. Come and see who will replace Mike McVay!

Sunday, February 7

Castro Lions present the 1999 Mr. Heart Throb Contest at the Eagle beer bust today, 1500-1800. \$8, including food & entertainment. Fester passes the vest to a successor.

Tuesday, February 9

MAST social gathering at the Lone Star Saloon, upstairs, at 1930, the subject: "Rituals-A connection between Master & slave." Hey, it's free!

Wednesday, February 10

It's Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. You know the rules. Slip and slide your way around and luxuriate in yellow bubbles! Call 863-HEAD.

"Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time" opens tonight at the Victoria Theatre, said to be a dark and sexy prison comedy. Would you expect Jeff to do anything less than hard? On the boards until March 7.

Thursday, February 11

Mr. Daddy's Leather Contest at Daddy's tonight at 2000; applications now available. Win the title, \$300 cash, and a studded title vest, and go on to compete at Mr. SF Leather next month.

Free STD Screening (not HIV) at 933 Harrison (upstairs) a free service provided by Blow Buddies and City Clinic. Call 863-HEAD for details.

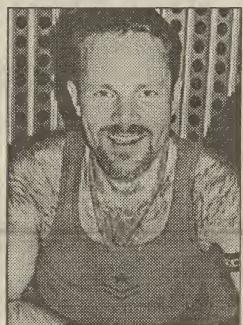
Weekend February 12-15

Besides the Mr. Cell Block Leather contest in Chicago, here it's International Bear Rendezvous, Inter-Club Fund Motorcycle Awards and hordes of other activities. Details next week.

Friday, February 12

Mr. Powerhouse Leather '99 contest, at 2000, emceed by Lenny Broberg. Applications available now. Winner gets \$100 cash, custom title vest, and sponsorship to Mr. SF Leather on March 12.

Cigar/Sex party at The Sling Doors open 2200 to 2400, and party ends at 0400 the next day. Admission is \$12. BYOB. Soft drinks provided, condoms, gloves, towels and optional clothes check. Call 292-3275 or check out their web page: www.theslingsf.com.



Mr. Lure New York, John Zimmerman, was on display at the Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend in Washington, DC last month.

Mister Marcus

PORN

Pinga plenty!

by John F. Karr

In his new video, peripatetic pornographer Kristen Bjorn depicts the luscious Cuban population of Miami. *Hot Times in Little Havana* is seductive from its very beginning, masterfully twining the video's credits around its exposition, while simultaneously setting toes tapping with some infectiously happy *son de Cuba*. But with its sad story of separated lovers (we know not why), it's quickly apparent that *Little Havana* is really a torch song — a *fado pornography*. One boy is in Havana — a city partially tropical, partially crumbling, and exotic to see — and the other is in Miami — a city partially tropical, partially piss elegant, but also exotic.

Julio mopes around the harbor in Havana, gazing longingly out to sea towards America, and recalls his last tender tryst with the long-gone Jorge. In a tantalizing but tortuously brief flashback, we are introduced to their devoted love, their soul kisses, and their whispered words of love, which sound all the more romantic for being in Spanish (and sounding sincere). We are also introduced to their giant uncult schlongs. Despite the melancholic guitar melodies, the sight of tools such as these startled me out of Bjorn's masterful reverie, and I took note that in a mere five minutes, he had established the video's pervasive mood of longing, introduced our heroes, and announced the plot (Julio's long search for Jorge before they

are finally reunited for a stupendous I Love You fuck). It's quite an accomplishment, this production number of an opening. It may be the world's first *Saudade de Pinga*.

But although the plot is easy to follow, more thorough storyboarding could have better presented its details. In one scene, it's hard to tell if one member of a three-way cruise is leading the others on, or fleeing them. And again, in a key scene with Jorge and his rich Miami boyfriend, there is no dialogue, nothing but a furtive glance or two, to tell us that the loutish man is actually keeping Jorge and forcing the penniless boy into degrading acts with a third party he's picked up. Yet even if one has to intuit the scenes' particularities, the sex in each is unquestionably rousing.

Strange customs

Desperate to find his lover, Julio rafts towards America and, half-drowned, rescued by two US Coast Guard Customs Agents — one swarthy brute, and one bulked-up blond — who know exactly how they want to take advantage of an immigrant without papers. O, the despotic acts the bestial pair of overly butch Customs Agents perpetrate on the waterlogged wetback — yes, they even call him the W word. But Julio earns his freedom in a big way, and is soon set free to begin tracking down his lover.

The most amazing scene finds Julio at a gated estate where five demi-gods are having a poolside orgy. What is this place — a cathouse? The boys will only tell



Julio where Jorge is if he sucks their cocks, which are, *en masse*, standing up. It's a showstopper, Julio working his way down this line of muscleboys, the cocks of those waiting bouncing in anticipation, the shaved crotches on two of them arousing fetishists.

After much travail and nearly two hours of multiple orgasmed adventures, Julio knocks on a door that is opened by Jorge. One last confusion threatens their reunion, but Jorge swears his love. "Show me how much," Julio orders. If love can be demonstrated by a physical act, the video's splendidly long and romantic finale proves the couple's bond beyond doubt, culminating, most appropriately, on a love seat.

Despite a directorial hand that is always apparent in the cast's sexplay, with the routine becoming predictable, and with a nearly inuring number of orgasms, Bjorn's *Hot Times in Little Havana* is notable for both its romantic sentiment and its cocky Cuban coquetry. It's a veritable *pinga* paradise. ▶

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

first ever International Ms. Boot Black competition, formatted exactly like it is at IML. Contact Bare Images Productions, 4332 Browne St., Omaha, NE 68111, or email ims@synergy.net. You can get other details by visiting the IMSL website: www.LeatherOnline.org/IMSL/ for details. Contestant packets will be available April 1, and Vagabond Travel has agreed to donate a portion of your bookings to the Leather Archives & Museum. Call 1-800-226-3830. I'll pass along more information as details emerge.

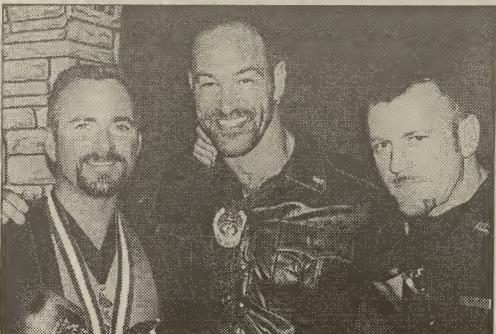
Golden Dildeaux

If you indulged your sexual proclivities "out on the streets" during 1998, you could well end up being nominated for a Golden Dildeaux Award. The event will be held in April, hosted by the Golden Gate Guards MC. Names are being submitted already in some of the 20 categories, so if you've been less than discreet in your carnal pursuits, don't be surprised if your name ends up on the ballot.

In other news . . .

The Defenders MC celebrated their fifth anniversary last Saturday night, January 30 at the Eagle Saloon. A healthy crowd was on hand to help the group celebrate with adult beverages and a buffet dinner. Glorious flower arrangements from other clubs bedecked the patio.

The new officers for the coming year are (let's hear the drum roll): Leader Carlos Mosca, Vice Leader Marc Fuentes and, saddled with a dual role, Jim Remer will serve as the official secretary of the patio.



Dean Ross, 1999 Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather, with IML Tony Mills (center) and Men of Discipline DC leader Ron Meschanko at MAL in DC in January.

the club and as the interim treasurer. The goals of the club were reiterated for the coming year, and the future looks good. Congratulations and much luck!

Earlier in the day, one of our most visible leather women, B.C. Cliver, tied the knot with her ever-loving Margaret at the Civic Center Holiday Inn. Former Ms. San Francisco Leather, Queen Cougar, performed the very moving ceremony, which was witnessed by both their friends and families. One of B.C.'s brothers, Carl, no stranger to leather-competition runways, was present and looking real good. Even as you read this, B.C. and Margaret are honeymooning in Hawaii. Of course, best wishes for a long and harmonious life together are the order of the day.

The third Leather Leadership Conference, begun in New York City, will take place in San Francisco the weekend of April 16-18. Organized by the ad-hoc group New York S/M Activists, the conference seeks to address the challenges to leaders, potential leaders, activists and advocates within the leather/SM fetish communities. After the success of the first two conferences, it was decided they should continue on a yearly basis, and San Francisco is the first city to host the event outside New York.

Already, a legion of volunteers is hard at work formulating the activities and agenda for this event. It will be a positive means of presenting useful tools and information for present-day and future leaders, advocates, activists and individuals in our leather nation.

In an effort to protect our future, the goals of these conferences are to achieve the same compassion, recognition, understanding and equality as our non-alternative counterparts in mainstream society. LLC III will strive to inform, educate and strengthen our present community members. If you want to participate, contact LLC3 at PO Box 42095, SF, CA 94142-0905. More on this event in the future. ▶

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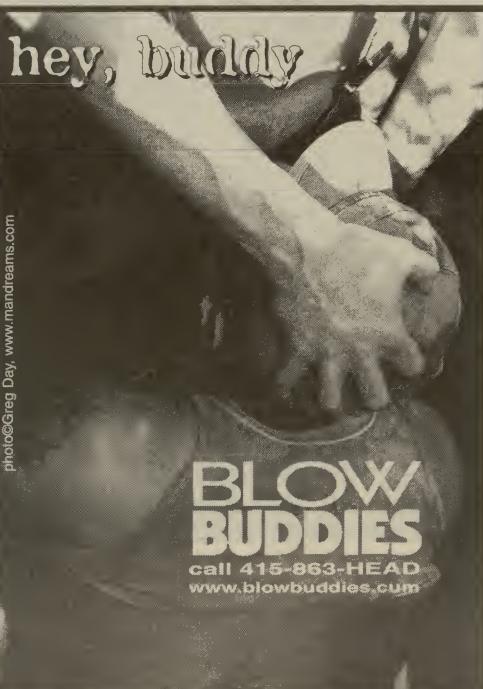
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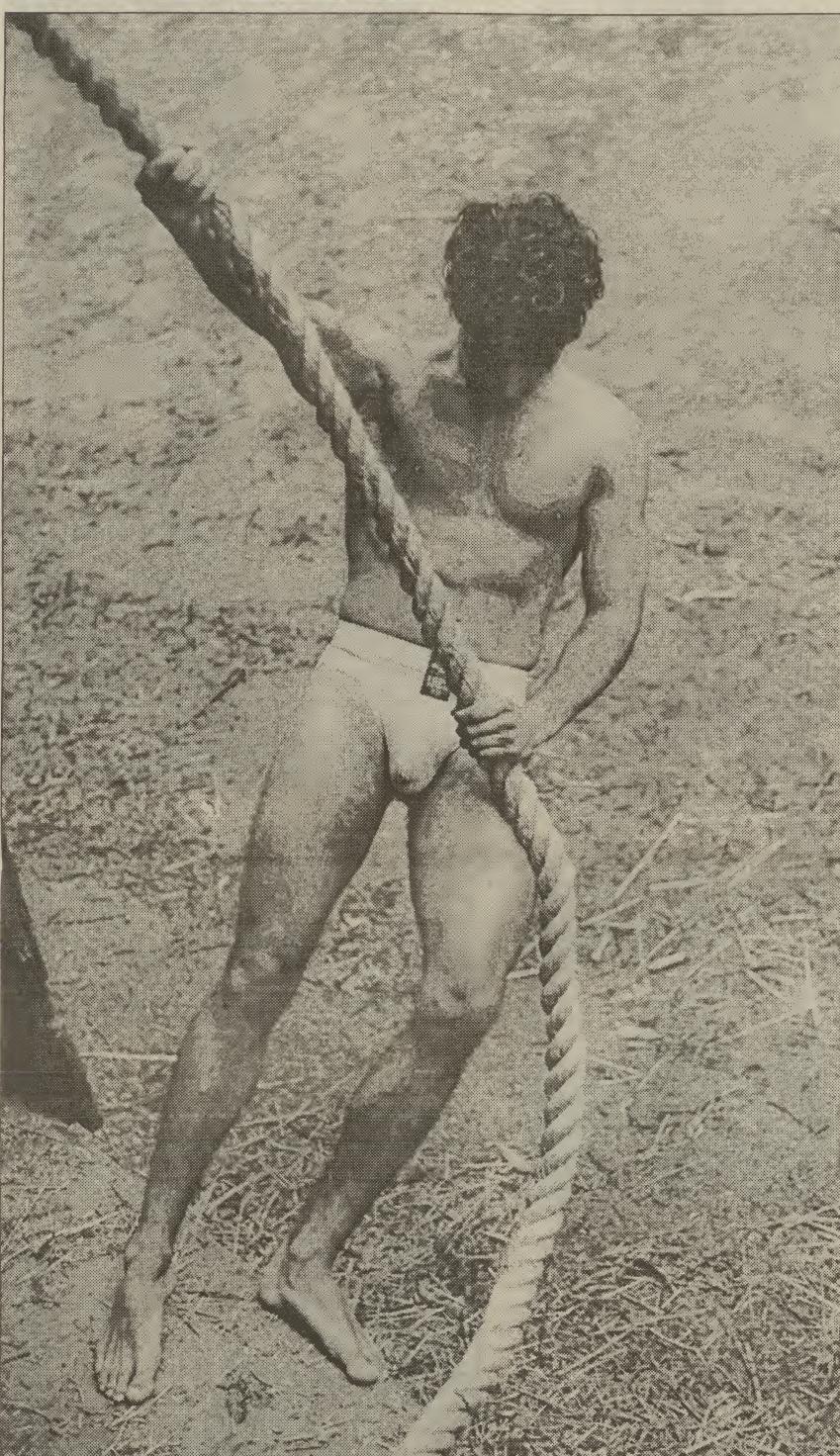
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PARTING GLANCES

David Met John Folsom St 1/10
You are so sexy and taste delicious. let's hang out somewhere more romantic. You, 14th St. Me No Valley. ☎ 5901

Fabiano Vincent
I want to learn how to make Ravio-l's. Robert Craig. ☎ 5902

Steamworks Locker Room
Thurs 1/7 9pm. You: Concord guy, glasses, 5'9", 150, moustache, friendly. Me: Ran to cab to Lake Merritt. Regret not introducing myself. Please call. ☎ 5903

Dennis City Entertainment Sun
You sucked my dick thru the hole, we kissed and you came over. We kissed a lot and I ate and fucked your sweet hole. More? Again? Naked. ☎ 5900

Peets Coffee Tues Jan 12
7:00am - You: red hair, construction boots; Me - short brown hair, glasses. We smiled a few times. I drove off in red Explorer. ☎ 6000

HP2807 Baggage Claim
I (GAM) picked up my friends. Their luggage was stuck in conveyor belt. You (WM) came back with your friend. We both live In E.Bay. Wanna have a cup of coffee to continue the conversation? ☎ 6100

Nob Hill Theatre Thurs 1/21 4pm
You: Grey sweatshirt w/tanktop underneath. Live in Berkeley work in the city. Me: Plaid flannel baseball cap, coming off an extended vacation. Can't stop thinking about you. ☎ 6101

Personal Trainer @ Steamworks
Hey you gorgeous, sweet, hunky GBM. You helped me with my workout New Years night and I lusted after you, but neither of us had a room. Call me Mark. ☎ 6102

JR's Friday Nights
You: Hottest guy I've ever seen. Blonde spiked hair, short 5'7" wearing white. Me older guy told you, where white. Please call, you're god. ☎ 6103

16th St & Potrero - 1/24
You: Light brown shirt, blue jeans, dark hair and goatee, walking across st. Me: Dark hair and mustache, driving blue Honda. We locked eyes several times. Wanna do more? ☎ 6104

Man With Guide Dog, N Judah
Do you know a blond, bearded blind man who uses a guide dog? We chatted about our dogs one afternoon several months ago. I hope he'll call. ☎ 6105

Ray Hayes Valley
I introduced myself to you on Thurs, 1/21, on the corner of Hyde/Sutter. I was taken by you, but I forgot to give you my phone number. Carlos. ☎ 6106

Sutter/Stockton - Thur PM 1/14
You - very attractive; got off 3 Jackson @ Hyde. Me - Too shy to approach you. Want to meet? Chuck. ☎ 6107

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 23yo, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, professional, 150#, 5'7". Looking for GWM 26-39yo for friendship or more. I like to go to movies, travel, hiking, tennis. Call me. ☎ 5904

Are You Ready?
I finally am - to get down to business & meet another guy, who's tired of empty beds and lonely nights and also ready to work on getting to know each other! ☎ 5905

GWM European Speak Engl/Franch
HIV-, N/S, N/D, uncut, I am 50+. You wouldn't guess. I wear glasses, am 5'11", 163lbs, 32" waist. ISO Blk or Latino who loves kissing & cuddling for safe sex. ☎ 5906

Together Into 2000 with Quality Man
Man, above avg, looks, loving soul & nurturer. Italian, Br/Br, curly, 5'10", 170#, fit, hairy, sexy, dominant, \$ stable, passionate about life, love, nature. Ready to settle w/HIV+ soulmate. Desire 30s-40s, stable, ready to commit. Will call back. ☎ 5907

Blue Collar German Seeks LTR
With WM or Middle Eastern bottom. Me: 50, uncut, 5'9", 34", Br/br, 200#, stache, accent, Homy, non-aggressive top. You: Tall, big butt, not chubby, 38-55. ☎ 5908

Bottom Daddy/Big Brother
GWM, 40, 6', 165lbs, poz, Ital/Cerm, Br/Hzl, goatee seeks lean GWM anal top snuggle buddy. 18-39. Dark hair a +. ☎ 5909

Positive In Every Way
HIV+, fun loving, grounded GWM seeks older GWM for fun, sharing and exploring all things that life has to offer. U.B. bwn 40-50. Serious only. ☎ 5910

GWM Seeks Latino
GWM, 40s, 5'7", 150lbs, bl/bl, goodlooking, sexy, HIV+, healthy, in-shape, professional, masculine seeks Latino for dating possible LTR. ☎ 5911

Mr. Wonderful
Handsome 29 5'8" 180 Black hair, hazel eyes tone body, movies, dinners, walks, are a must looking for guys 25-40 tone body's and their act together, Latinos A+. ☎ 5912

Love Dominant Tops
GWM, 6'165, seeks men any age + size for long time fucking. You can plow me anytime your horny. Yours for pleasure. I'm a phone call away. ☎ 5913

Mulatto Guy
Sexy intelligent, educated, creative, goodlooking, seeks the right guys for friendship, fun, or just good times. ☎ 5914

Hairy Stud
Me: hairy, handsome, 38, 5'9", 160#, goatee, buzzcut, muscular, total top, big dick, HIV+. You: under 45, attractive, healthy, bottom, eager to please aggressive top. ISO good sex, romance, affection. ☎ 5915

Virtually Normal
GWM Graduate of Yale. Not into bars. Seeking LTR. Young 38. Acts very straight. No kink, NS, ND. Please be disease-free. Be at least 6ft tall, please call. ☎ 5915

RU Out There
Seeking down to earth handsome GWM 30-45 to enjoy sexy, intelligent, honest, HIV+ 34 Ozzie. ☎ 6012

My Religion: Live Thru Love
Intelligent introspective clean-cut slim professional, 44yo, seeks similar 55yo with a heart endued heart/mind to explore a deep and multifaceted relationship with another. ☎ 5916

Is My Love Life Over?
Very attractive 42yo muscular caucasian male. I'm honest, sensitive, dependable & very loving. Seeking a smooth musc. hairless Asian. Pls be honest, and not superficial. SF & E. Bay. ☎ 5917

Are we Missing One Another?
32 WM seeks self-sufficient, focused life-partner. Me: spiritual; highly-motivated; extremely liberal; hiker; thinker; very independent; blonde; masculine; boyish; easy-going. All answered though Asian/Pacific Island born and under 40yo preferred. ☎ 5918

Romantic Dreamy Passionate GWM
5'11", 173, masculine, fit, 35, br;br, clean-cut, seeking "My Asian Prince". He should be fun, athletic, sincere, romantic, and down to earth. I know he's out there... For LTR. ☎ 6001

Faster Than The Speeding Light
Hoping to meet an extraordinary, romantic, monogamous GWM 30-40s. Me: White/Eurospanish, 25, smooth, student, handsome 32", 44" c. You: In-shape, handsome, successful, genuine, and funny. ☎ 6002

Financially Secure Male Wanted
I'm good looking, educated, sexy, creative, and just looking for the right person for a great relationship. ☎ 6003

Asian Man Seeks Friendship
GAM, 25, 5'6, 135#, new to SF for studying, enjoy movies, music & travel. Need friends! You: GWM 22-39, same interests. NS, ND. Take a chance! Let's talk & meet!! ☎ 6004

Higher Power & Kinky
38 HIV+po, GHM, bottom, versatile, FF, WS, toys. Spiritually connected to higher power. Sex pig, romantic, Imperfect, loving, ISO possible LTR. ☎ 6005

HIV- Police Fire Military Men
Trim, under 50, 7' wanted for oral service no reciprocation necessary. I am a shy GWM in my 50s, 5'10", 150#, dark brown hair. Enjoy classic music, computers, outdoors. ☎ 6006

Married or Divorced J/O Buddy
Black, 52, 5'9, 170, seeks white 48-75, 175-230lbs, HIV-, for oral or sex regular in Oakland, within downtown or Lake Merritt Area. ☎ 6007

Goodlooking Latino
I'm single, 27, 5'7, 165lbs, muscular, stocky, w/a good sense of humour and now available. I'm seekin Latinas or Whites over 21 for friendship or more. ☎ 6008

RU HIV+ 35+ Concord Top?
HIV+ Pittsburgh bottom, 36, blue/brown, 185, 6ft, smoker seeks suburban loving boyfriend - drive-in movies, fleamarkets, backyard Bar-B-Q, home improvement projects etc. ☎ 6009

Seeking Uncut Man
GWM seeks relationships with loving and affectionate uncut GM who enjoys giving and receiving handjobs. I'm 52, 5'8, 175#, brn/bl, beard, HIV-. ☎ 6010

Passionate Anal Sex?
6'2", husky, bottom bottom seeks warm, healthy, horny top for good sex. I'm 5'8, cute, clean, HIV-. I like sucking, but love getting it doggy-style. Your looks are unimportant. Be sincere & hung. ☎ 6011

Tall Dark Handsome Loving Hunk
Accomplished GWM seeks passionate LTR. I'm 6'2" 190# 42, very muscular, goatee Italian. Fun sincere exclusive family oriented healthy as a horse! HIV+ non-progressor, puppy love to leather, sexually charged for relationship. Seeks similar 35-45yo professional, GWM who's grounded, secure, relationship experienced and committed to what makes it work. A man to look me in the heart, so we can do for each other's bodies and live for each other's souls. Facial hair, body builder A+. Good credentials and character a must. Serious only, please call. ☎ 6013

GWM ISO Soul Mate
Attr GWM nice guy ISO soul mate. I'm a young 1kg 42, 5'11, 165, drk-brn/bl, stache/goatee, nonsmoker, and HIV+. I'm well educated, politically liberal, and financially secure. I enjoy working out, travel, football, leather, chatting on the internet, and all types of music. I seek a man who is masculine, honest, playful yet emotionally mature, unafraid of commitment, financially stable, and attr. ☎ 6014

3 Parts Navajo - 1 Part Mex
Seeking other brown dudes for hot passionate fun, movies, rollerblading and you decide. Me: 33yo, 5'6" @ 150#. If cool with you, call me. ☎ 6108

Nice Guy Seeks Same
Nice looking young active 50ish GWM 5'8", 167lbs. Bright educated, personable, romantic & fun, seeks quality 37-49 GWM have a brain, heart & smile. Love to kiss & cuddle. ☎ 6109

Horny Hairy Top ISO Pig Btm 4
Marathon walkons, 6', 170 WM, shaved head, br GoT. Jesse Ventura type w/a cut cast iron duck in a crusty raunchy jock. I kick holes back. So do you. Hungry holes a must. Short & hairy A+. Tats, rings & jockstraps R cool 2. Be my cumdump valentine! ☎ 6110

Remember?
I was that guy you had really hot sex with! Me: GWM 45, 5'10", 170, goodlooking & passionate. You: 35+, GWM, masculine and spontaneous. Let's do it again! ☎ 6111

GWM 42 165# Br/Bi, Goatee
Tattoos, hairy, versatile, horny, HIV+. Emotionally available. Interests - art, antiques. Good kisser A+. ☎ 6112

Cuddler Seeks Same for Romance
Older attr. GWM, 75, 5'7", 170 seeks Dldg, sex 18-40 man for mutual love-making and intimacy. Ongoing preferred and open to LTR. ☎ 6113

Are You Ready?
I finally am, to get down to business, meet another guy who's tired of lonely nights and empty bed's and who's also ready to work on getting to know each other. ☎ 6114

Available Latino 32
Central American, heavy accent, smooth, 5'11", 190lbs, dark features, indigenous. Seeking white or Latino over 25yrs to 42 1/2. ☎ 6115

Dominant Buddy Wanted
Inexperienced, attractive, submissive, in-shape, masculine, verbal guy to please and service, HIV-, sincere only. ☎ 6116

European WM
30s, 6'1", 170#, br;br, fit, non smoker, into hiking, travel, music, books, movies and much more. Looking for friendship, dating, intimacy, open to LTR. ☎ 6117

Impotence Too?
Retired 60s SF man wants to touch and share the fun of living with a fellow senior who likes some of the things he likes. Don't be shy! ☎ 6118

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Do You Want Your Hole Filled?
Handsome Top, hung 8 uncut thick inches, in-shape, blond and 38yo. I want your warm hole for plugging. Friendly bottoms who are oral or anal lets get it on! ☎ 5919

Need A Steady Fucker - I'm Hot
GWM 50yo 5'11", 175, HIV-, ND, NS, like to suck and get fucked, play with your balls your ass and tits, race no factor or age. I like 7" or 8" dick I'm hot, call. S 5920

GWM Daddy Seeks GAM Bottom
Boy to take care. My 40yo, 9", 5'10", 175, Italian hot top. You must be bottom & take care of Daddy. ☎ 5921

GAM Desires Leather S/M Fantasy
50 youthful, handsome look, gymanized, 5'5", 120#, seeks GWM hunks in full leather, tattooed, pierced, w/trim beard/goatee, over 6', w/muscles, into S/M/leather scene, cigar smoking & dirty talk. ☎ 5923

Masc. Athletic Exceptional Guy
6ft, 175lb, well built ISO very masculine, athletic, tall, well built, exceptionally endowed older brother/dad type (30-45) for discreet, great encounters. Not into typical GWM, drugs, phonies, bars. ☎ 5924

Shaved Top Seeks Shaver Bottom
Shaved top needs to fuck shaved total bottom. Me: Hot Daddy top 54, 6', 180, hard cock. You: slender, insatiable bottom eager to shave his top. ☎ 5925

Jackoff - Showoff? Need an Apt?
Devoted to pleasing yourself? Love demonstrating your expertise in windows for worshipful neighbors? Need an SF apt? If your Asian or GWM 30s-40s, let's talk! ☎ 5926

GWM Sonoma Co 42 5'11" HIV-
Lean, muscular, hung, seeks same to have his ass eaten for hours then fuck my hungry man pussy. ☎ 5936

MuscleDad Seeks Boy to Fist
Lean, hard, muscular, well-defined top, sure-handed and good-looking, seeks submissive, lo-fat fistiging bottom under 40 who's focused, responsive, flexible, receptive. Beginners OK if qualified as above. ☎ 5927

Million Dollar Ass
OK maybe only 500 thousand. Prowe every which way. Muscular, very masculine, mature GWM seeks hot tops 30-40 HIV-, ND, NS. Straight men A+. ☎ 5928

Gotta Have Chocolate
WM 35+ Avg. Looks and tanned, tight in right places w/mind and sex appeal seeks BM equipped and tender to loosen my tight spots. Back front and all over. S 5929

Swallow It All The Way Down
WM 50 HIV- very masculine good shape dominant verbal seeks very submissive HIV- cocksucker with obedient Insatiable hungry deep throat for regular long sessions at your place in SF. ☎ 5930

Gods And Monsters
It's tea time and you must strip and make an exhibition of yourself for bearded British gent 50, 5'10", slim. You be in shape 18-40. Any race 7'+ or more A+. ☎ 5931

Daddy ISO UC Boys
Dominant Dad 40s into mutual oral action WS, jock straps, dirty talk, sweat. ISO young uncut white/latin boys for play/party sessions. ☎ 5932

Hey Dick Pig!
Do you want a big dick to take his time in your mouth & throat? Can you suck for hours? Take piss? If so, call me. ☎ 5933

Saturday Night Fever
Gay male male clean cut, healthy and fun loving seeks versatile bottom for Sat night dancing, movies and lovemaking. ☎ 5934

Big Dick Wants Deep Throated
Total cocksucker for long workouts. UB enthusiastic, Imaginative. Age, race unimportant. Talented lips, mind a must. Lots of facefucking! ☎ 5935

What Turns You On? Getting It?
GWM 47 5'10" 150lb. ISO young playful fuck buddy. You: ? to be determined. ND NA HIV+ pref. Cigs, aroma toy ok. E. Bay. Call you'll be glad you did! ☎ 5937

Wanted Short Stocky Hairless
GWM seeks under 5'6" GLM or GAM bottom. Prefer brown skin and under 35. I am 45, 6'2" in-shape. Good legs A+. ☎ 5938

Like Watching Yourself Get ...
Sucked by a hot guy with a big dick? This gym-toned blonde won't disappoint! No age preference, just be X-tra hung and smooth. Leave explicit message for callback. ☎ 5939

A-1 Oral Service - Delivered
SF GWM HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV-. ☎ 5940

Asian Bottoms Like Dildo Play
35yo top stud, hot, horny, healthy, wants to be daddy of dildo to asian bottom boy. Daytime is best. ☎ 6016

Black, Latin on White
You: Sexy, top for this kinky tight butt bottom, service you front and back, uncum hot, nasty mind hotter! 20-45 and slender CK me out! ☎ 6017

Hot Asian Ass
Asian male 38, 5'3", 130lbs HIV-, masculine, muscular gum toned mustache would love to get fucked. Safe only. ☎ 6018

Poz GBM Sks GWM Top
Poz GBM 37 6' 180 masculine but submissive. A+ for short small built men, but not a requirement. tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 6019

Just Shut-Up and Ride
WM, 5', 5'10", 200#, blonde/blue muscle hunk 48"ch 32"w 18" arms, wants godlooking masculine men to pump me up or get pumped full of squirt. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime. ☎ 6020

Asian Master
Cute, young GWM slave, 5'10", 150#, HIV-, great body. ISO Asian master to explore BD, SM, kink, exhibitionism & fantasy play. ☎ 6021

Shaved Heads & Big Cocks
Hot handsome young Italian very oral and likes to fuck and get fucked. Let's 69 and flip a coin for it. ☎ 6022

HIV Scorpio
HIV- 35+, bottom ISO top men 30-55 into porn, aroma for sex. Any race 7'+ or more A+. ☎ 6023

Tight Butts Drive Me Nuts!!
Hot, hung, masculine, muscular, Italian topman looking for a hot, in-shape, eager-to-please bottom. Race looks not important. Hardbody a must. ☎ 6024

Sensual Sex Bulldog Desired
By 31yr 165# 5'9" Nazi look guy. I'm handsome, hairy, gentle & in-shape! ISO GWM, same basic stats, into kissing, stroking massage h2o fantasy. Prefer sober encounters, days/evenings, your place. ☎ 6025

Sub Blk Bottom Hot Mouth
Sub Blk hot mouth light end sks top/dom top, verbal talk down dirty kink rancor sleeve role playing eve or wk ends. ☎ 6026

GW Daddy Seeks Submissive son
21-25yrs old for hot sexual encounters and fantasy. Prefer white or hispanic only. ☎ 6027

CleanCut Sexxydude
Cute HIV- WM, 38, 6', 190 seeks another single masculine WM with a big cock. 18-35, for hot oral action and asslicking. Prefer smooth, average to fit, very cute. ☎ 6028

Cyclist Seeks Serious Cyclist
Meet my Cinelli. USCF, fixed gears, shaved legs, and big thighs are pluses. I'm 5'9", 170, br;br, GWM, very masc, and open to everything. ☎ 6029

Help Me Orally Service/Blow My Hot Black sexpal.
Weekdays, his place. I'm 40, white, attractive. He's 30s, hung, wants front/back service. You are fit under 40, man of color or super hairy, orally versatile! ☎ 6030

Total Oral Service
SFGWM offers tongue bath/deep throat for straight, hairy, muscular man 30+. Married preferred. Celtic, 5 o'clock shadow w's. Discretion assured. Private home. Flexible schedule. No reciprocation. ☎ 6015

Wanted Dick To Suck East Bay
Wanted dick to suck, Richmond, Pinole, San Pablo etc. Your place. I'm 42, 5'7", 165lbs. hairy body. I have a hot hungry mouth! ☎ 6031

Middle Eastern/Mediterranean
Under 50 HIV-, trim, 7' wanted for oral service. No reciprocation necessary by shg GWM in my 50s. I am 5'10", 150#, dark brown hair. Enjoy classical music, computers, outdoors. ☎ 6032

Wanted: Latinos & Others
I'm a 24yo GWM bld/blu 5'7" 135lbs, HIV-, trim. I seek orally service until you're service until latinos & others. I am very versatile & very, very eager to please. You won't be disappointed! ☎ 5941

Fin Dist Daytime Meeting
GWM professional 38, HIV-, HWP, looking for similar for daytime financial dist encounter. Fun, safe & same, no strings. Married, Bi A+. ☎ 6139

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Looking For A Place To Put It?
Then slide into my tight, hungry hole slow and deep. Wm, 48, 5'8", 175#, affectionate, good-looking, healthy HIV+. ISO: BM or WM tops, 40-55, masculine, proportionate. Regular fuckbuddies possible. ☎ 6033

On Call Cock Sucking Service
Submissive orientated straight WM 50s, seeks older hung WM to teach me how to suck cock. If you're willing to wear protection I'll provide no reciprocation on call service. ☎ 6034

Man/Boy Fuck
Is your butt hungry for a wild ride? If you're 18-25 and hot for it... I've got it. Call me. ☎ 6035

Handsome Asian Top Sks 18-35
Dominant 38 5'9" 150 seeks in shape bottoms. Roleplaying, massage, BD, Leather, cuddling, workout, tennis, muscle posing, wrestling, video's. Beginner/Bi everyone welcome. Call today. ☎ 6127

HIV Scuddy
Like to do doggie style? GWM, 37, slim, hung, seeks versatile guy, 40 and under for mutual pleasure. Hung, thick A+. ☎ 6128

BM ISO Older Top
You: Tall, slim, trim, fit, (any race) 40-55, in need of occasional blow job from BM, my place, SF, ver, BM, A+. ☎ 5942

Masculine Bottom
Looking to get ass plowed on regular basis by big dick. Love to service guys 35-40s. I am well built, WM, age 30. Call for details. ☎ 6130

Masturbation Plus
Or those who like mature men erotic verbal role play imaginative JO one on one or group age looks dick size, not important attitude is. ☎ 6131

Pornofile Seeks Playmate
Sexy BM 6'1" 170# good shape natural body, avid video collector. Looking for hot white guys for fun and...? See what you're missing! ☎ 6132

Restless In San Francisco
GWM, 42, Italian, hairy, In-shape, Insane! In LTR seeks sex crazed hairy bottom with similar thinking and situation, for hot and sweaty fun. SF Only. Weekdays preferred. ☎ 6133

Black Male Wants Your Cock
36yo with 9in cock wants your 7+ hard cock to suck. You 21 to any race. Let's 69 or me do you. I want to see you cum. ☎ 6134

Mature Men Wanted
I'm a LM, 40, 6', 160#, and I enjoy being around, mature men. Facial hair, uncum, rough looking A+. No leather, pain, SM. ☎ 6135

Seeking Fem Black Top
Masculine, clean, discrete man would like to meet fem black top. Me - 38yo, 6', 190#. You - settled, friendly, no partying. ☎ 6136

Eight Inch Ass-Splitter!!!!!!
Smooth bottomed beefcake ready to kick-back while you suck eight fat inches to a head, pucker your hole and take a seat to ride down my long dirt road. GWM, 38, neg, 185#. ☎ 6137

Thin Boy Seeks 200# + Asian Latin
For safe random sexual encounters. I'm a GWM, 27, 6'3", 150#, shaved head, stache, goatee. Into vanilla and kink/fetish. Open to all ages. A+ for facial hair/goatee. ☎ 6138

ISO Huge Wht Cock To Worship
If you are a very well hung, thick/cut masculine clean hairy WM, under 40 into long party/play sessions watching video's, showing off/bragging, w/clean attractive BiK boy. ☎ 6030

Extremely Thirsty Submissive
Mature deep throat expert seeks well hung men into WS action to quench his thirst. ☎ 6140

Seeking Bondage
Bottom seeks top into safe bondage scenes. GWM, 41, 5'8", 155, good-looking, athletic, BD, TT, CBT. I also can switch. ☎ 6124

LESBIAN

Breaking Up With A Lesbian?
So am I. I want to start a Lesbian break-up support group. This is not a professional counseling group. It's a bunch of Dykes. Besides, isn't it better than vegging alone? ☎ 5950

FETISHES

Seeking Older Men
Help my fantasies cum true. GWM HIV- 56yr 5'2" 120# very horny, want my little ass played with, spanked, F/F, balls stretched & bent on your pants/shorts pulled down. Old fashioned discipline for naughty boys 20-50yo. Novice ok. ☎ 6120

Get The Spanking You Deserve!
Over the knee, corporal punishment given by GWM, 40s, w/hand/paddle & belt on your pants, underwear and bare butt w/o your pants/shorts pulled down. Old fashioned discipline for naughty boys 20-50yo. Novice ok. ☎ 6121

Healthy? Enjoy Showing Off?
Your hard body? You leisurely strip, remove your top, drop your pants, then slowly jerking off you approach me, appreciative senior on my knees. Perfect bliss. ☎ 6122

Cum Over & Squat & B Serviced
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Supposed spirit

by Gregg Shapiro

I don't care if Alanis Morissette or Jewel (Kilcher) sell ten or ten billion copies of their new CDs. I'll leave that headache to their labels, Maverick and Atlantic, respectively. What I care about is the music-loving consumer. Not that they have the best taste in the world — after all, they did actually buy all of those other Alanis and Jewel CDs, but I am genuinely concerned with their best interests.

If you bought Alanis's 1995 record-breaking record *Jagged Little Pill* and actually paid full price for it at that, then there's probably nothing I can say to stop you from doing the same with *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie* (Maverick/Reprise). In fact, there's no reason why you shouldn't. Actually, there is, but you probably wouldn't like the new Joni Mitchell CD anyway.

Alanis gets co-production credit for *SFJ*, a claim she shares with Glen Ballard, big boss last time out on *Jagged*, and Morissette and Ballard also co-wrote many of this album's songs, as they did on the previous record. There are, however, four songs ("Are You Still Mad?", "Sympathetic Character," "Heart of the House," and "Your Congratulations") for which Alanis gets sole writing credit, and let's just say they're not the best ones on the disc (although of the three, "Heart of the House," written for her mother, is the most acceptable). Perhaps this is an indication that Morissette and Ballard are a decent enough song-writing team, and on the next album, she won't divert from that plan.

Now for a few words of praise. The foreshadowing of "Uninvited," the song Morissette contributed to the *City of Angels* soundtrack, and the infectious first single "Thank U" (released in advance of the album) are a pretty good indication of where her strengths lie on this disc. Gooey but tough ballads and mid-tempo numbers ("That I Would Be Good," "The Couch," "I Was Hoping," "UR," "Unsent," "One," the aforementioned "Thank U" and "Heart of the House") are where Morissette is the most real and accessible, and

the least histrionic. That's the least I can ask of Alanis when expectations are running so high.

Like Alanis Morissette's mother, Jewel's mother Nedra Carroll also figures prominently on Jewel's new CD *Spirit* (Atlantic). After all, Ms. Carroll is also Jewel's manager. She also lends her considerable vocal talents to the gorgeous first single "Hands" (as a back-up vocalist), and on the album's closing "additional track," a song she sang to Jewel when she was a child, "This Little Bird" (by John D. Loudermilk), on which she takes lead vocal duties (Jewel sings harmony).



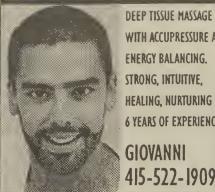
Jewel

True to the disc's title, Jewel appears to be on a pre-millennium spiritual quest (along with Morissette and Madonna, among others), and it infuses the disc. From the gorgeous "Hands" to "Enter From The East" to "Absence of Fear," Jewel's spirit is trying to be as humble as it can be. The disc's finest moments ("Down So Long," the country love song "Barcelona," the folkie "Life Uncommon," and the love songs "Jupiter" and "What's Simple Is True") almost balance the missteps ("House of Hate," on which she again sounds like the ultimate dumb blonde shiksa, in much the same way she did on the title track to her previous album; the reach exceeding the grasp of "Innocence Maintained" and "Kiss the Flame"; "Fat Boy," a song whose concept is better executed by Patty Griffin in her song "Tony"). In all honesty, I can't wait to hear what she does on her next album. ▶

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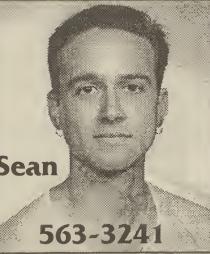
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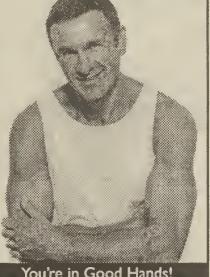
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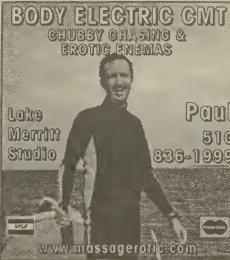
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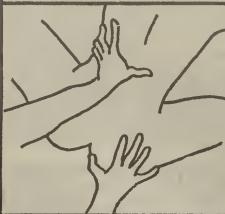
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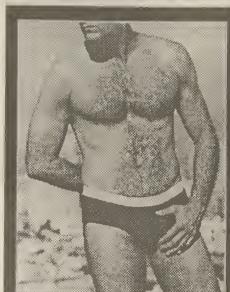
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E11

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E05

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E05

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E06

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E10

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E05

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E05

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E05

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E06

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E08

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E08

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E09

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E05

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E11

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E05

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E09

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E08

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E05

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E05

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E05

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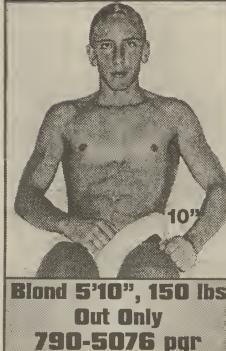
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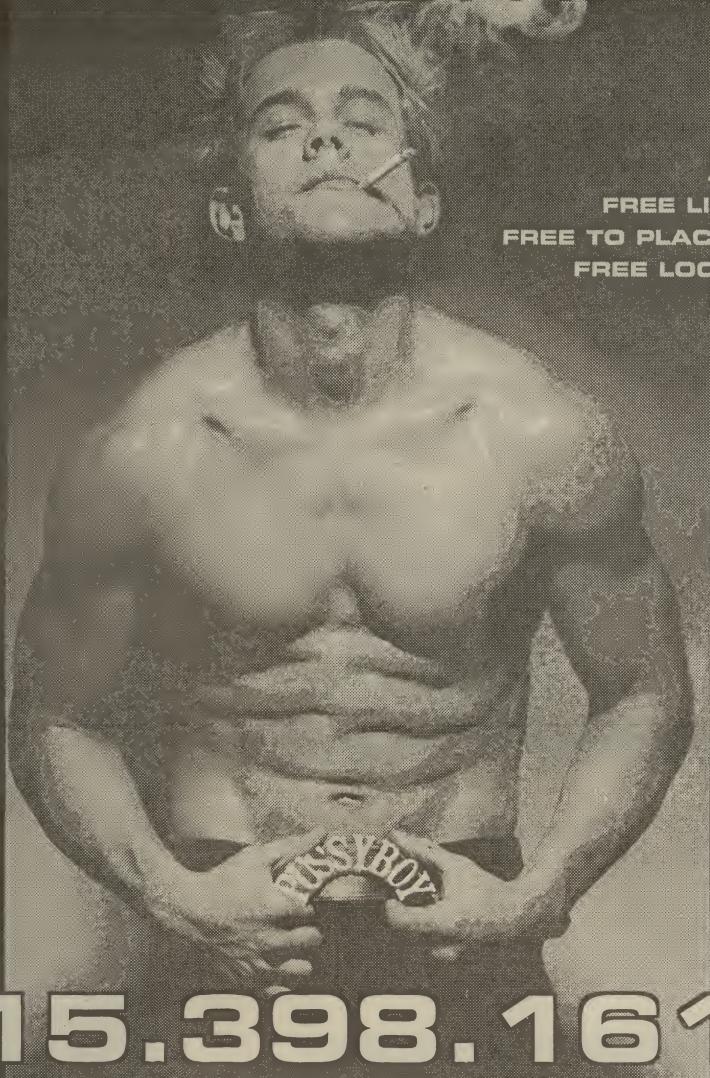
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